

**MARVEL**

**LEGACY**

**WAR AT THE GATES OF HELL**

**PART 1**

**1**

# SPIRITS OF VENGEANCE™



**GISCHLER  
BALDEÓN  
MOSSA**

**F**or eons, the scales balancing the supernatural realms have held steady...until now. Only the strangest of alliances can save Heaven and Hell...a union of disparate heroes, counteracting the sins of mortals as...

# SPIRITS OF VENGEANCE

## WAR AT THE GATES OF HELL PART I

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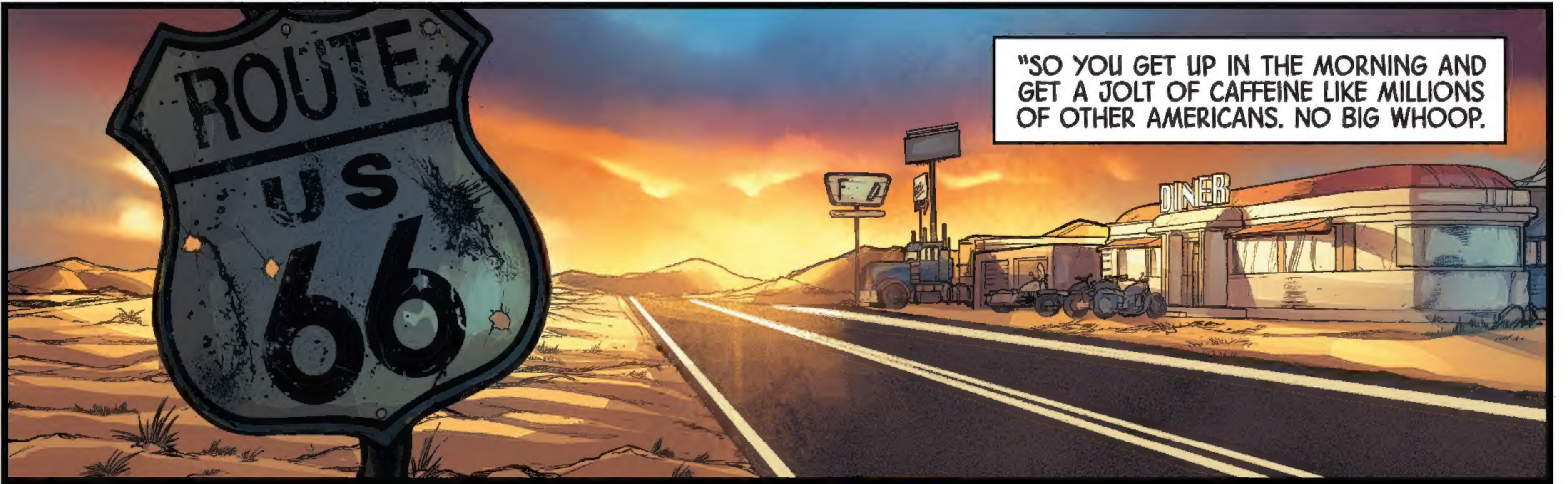
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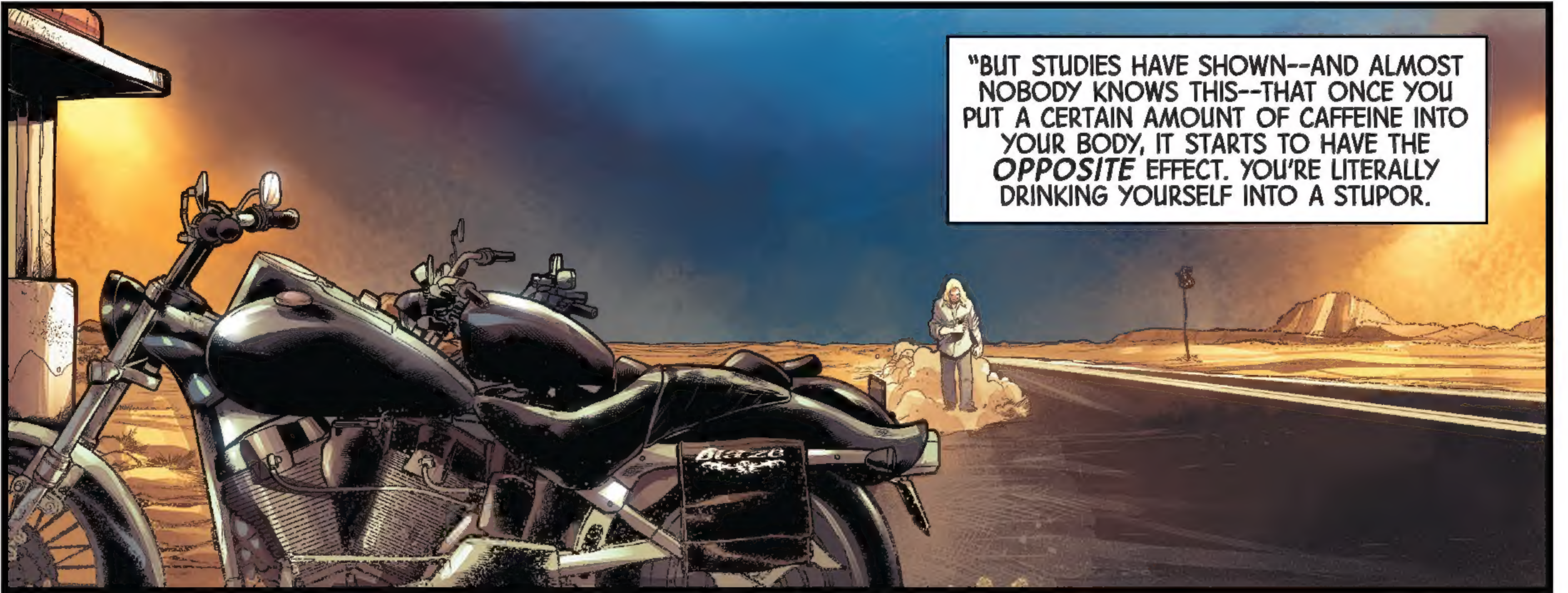
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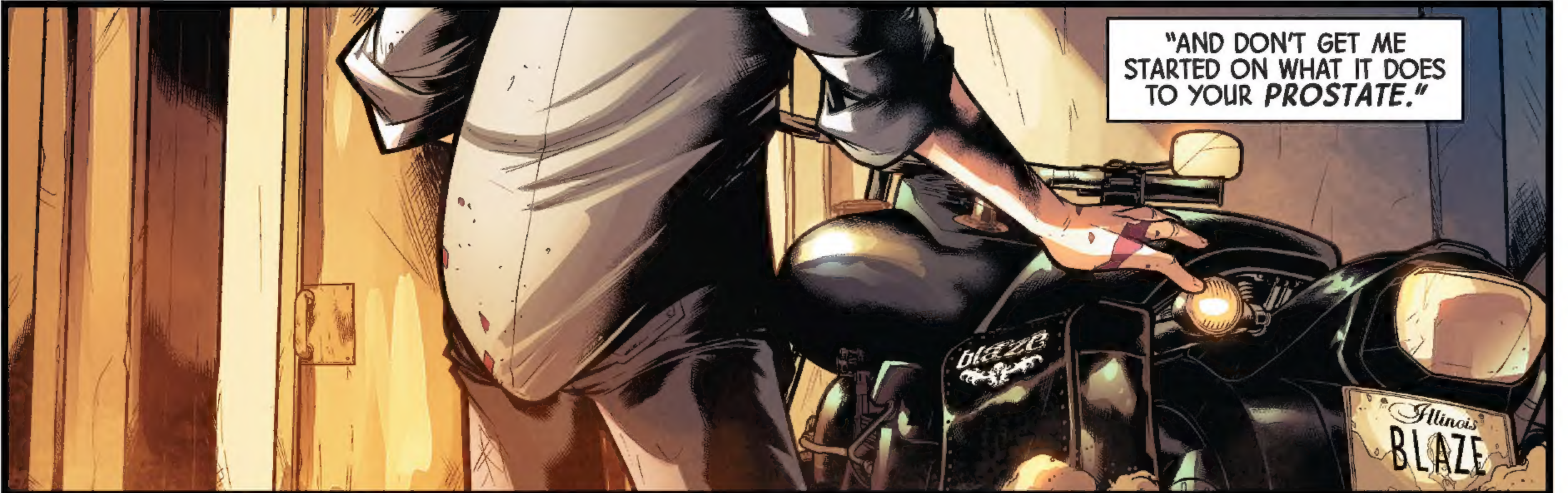
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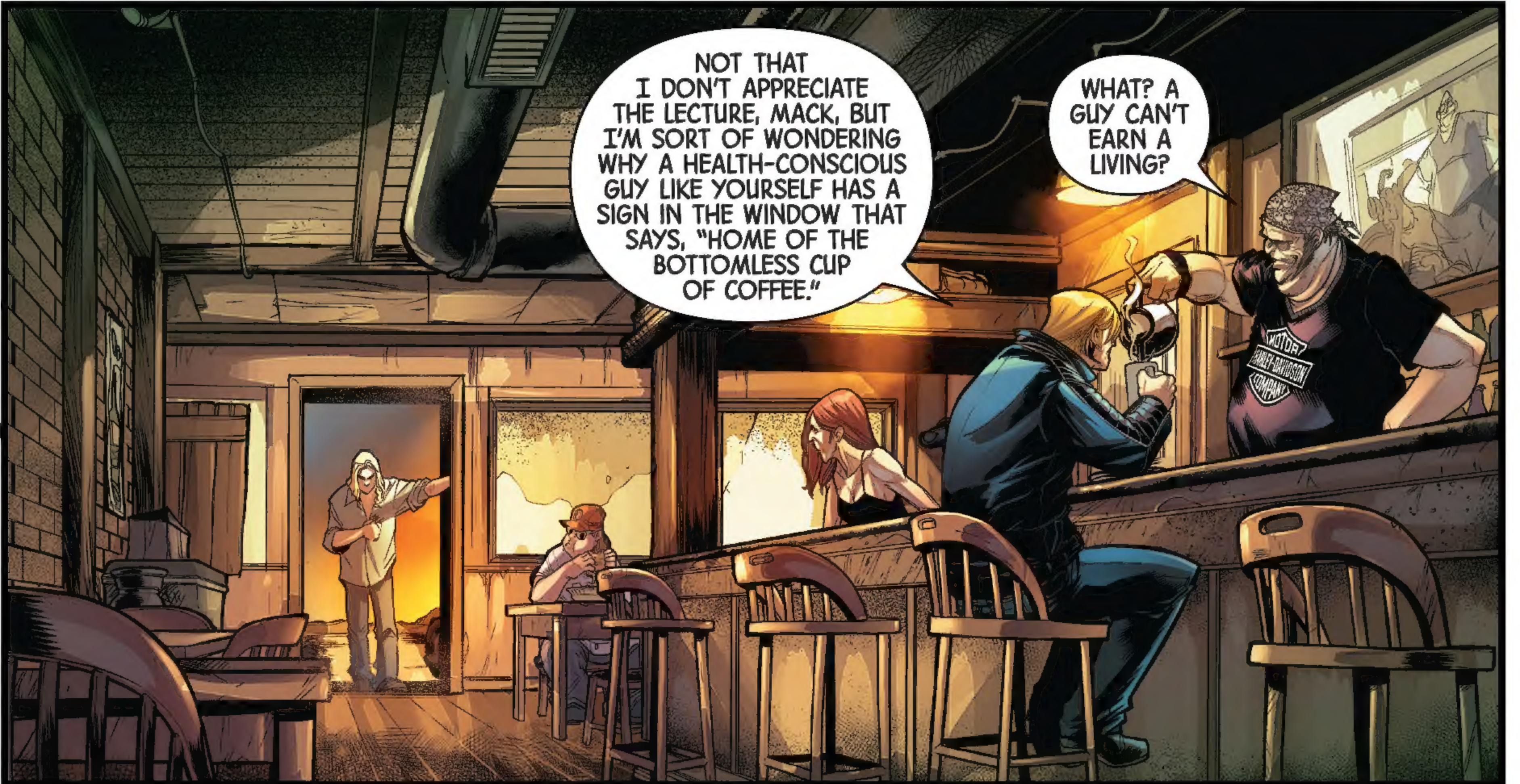
"SO YOU GET UP IN THE MORNING AND GET A JOLT OF CAFFEINE LIKE MILLIONS OF OTHER AMERICANS. NO BIG WHOOP.



"BUT STUDIES HAVE SHOWN--AND ALMOST NOBODY KNOWS THIS--THAT ONCE YOU PUT A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF CAFFEINE INTO YOUR BODY, IT STARTS TO HAVE THE **OPPOSITE** EFFECT. YOU'RE LITERALLY DRINKING YOURSELF INTO A STUPOR.

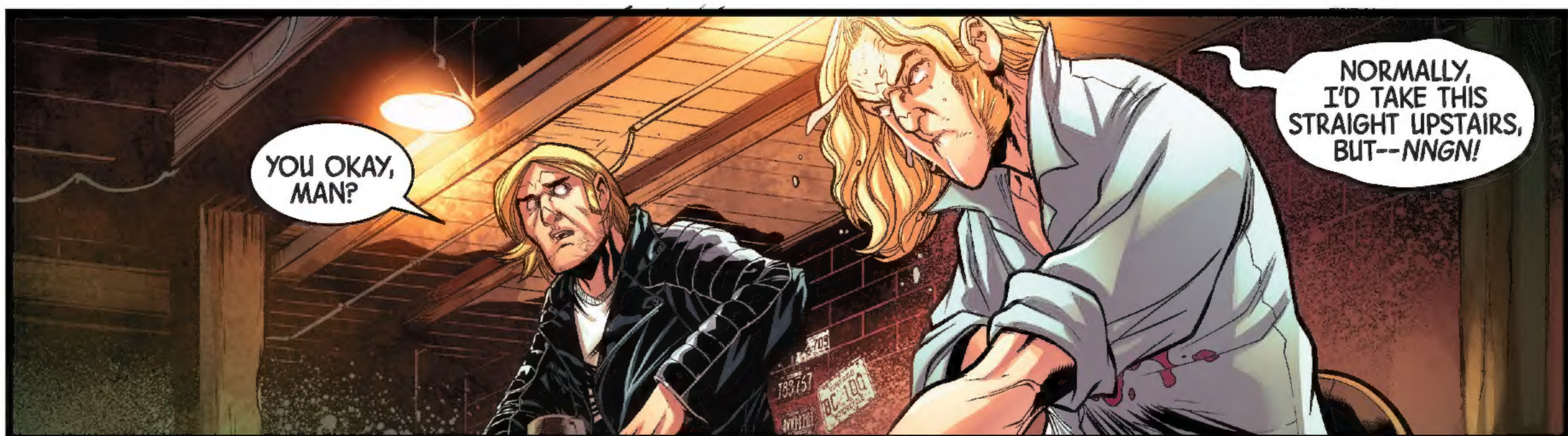
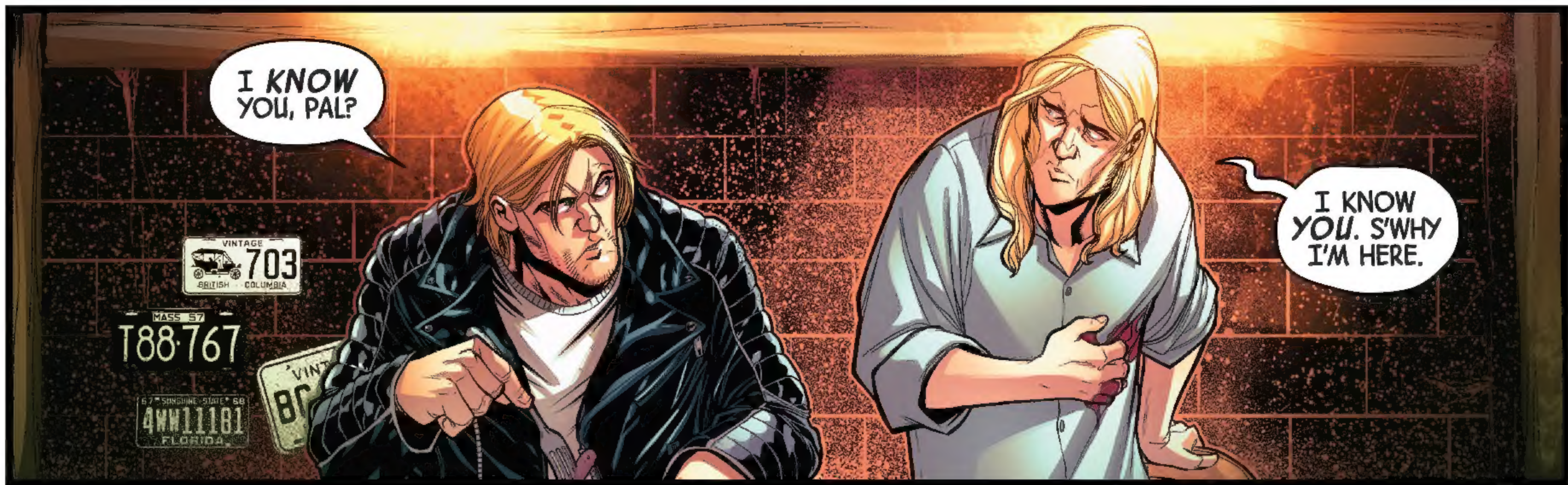
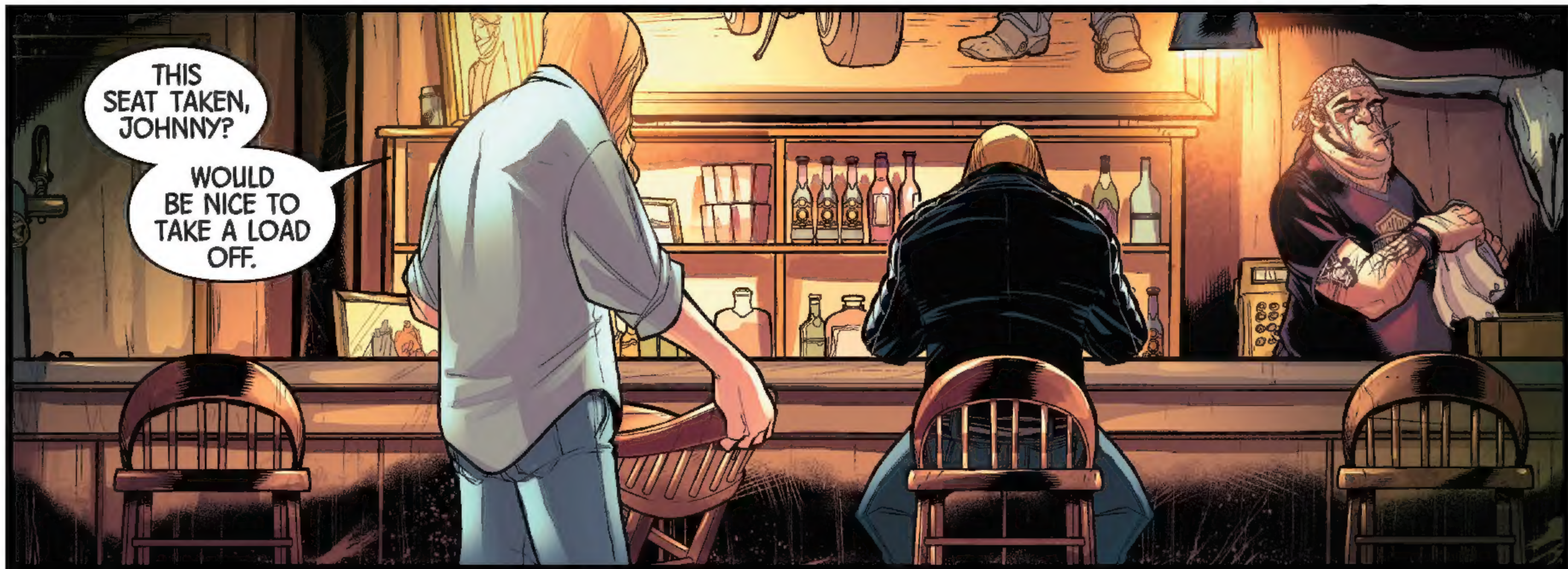


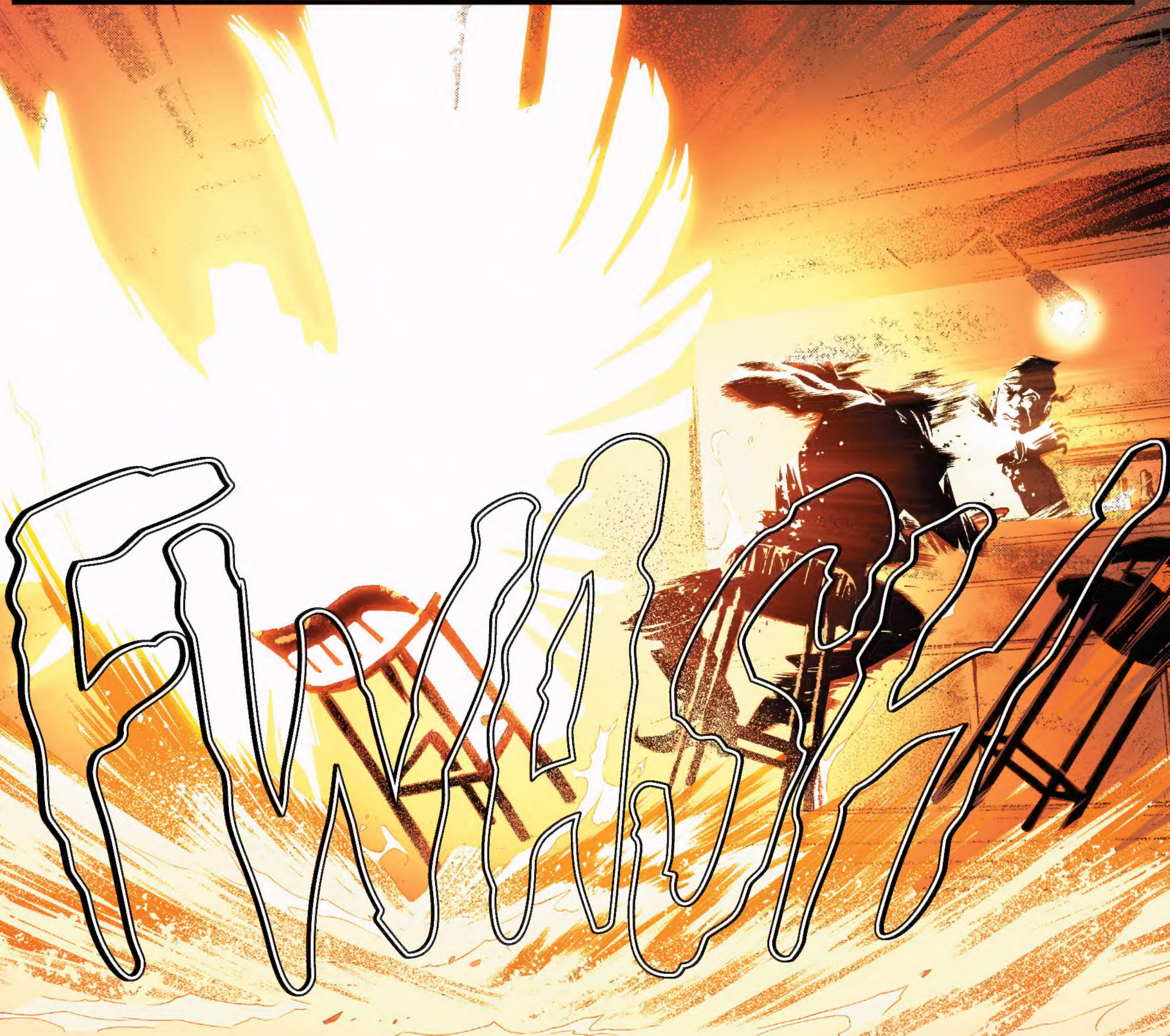
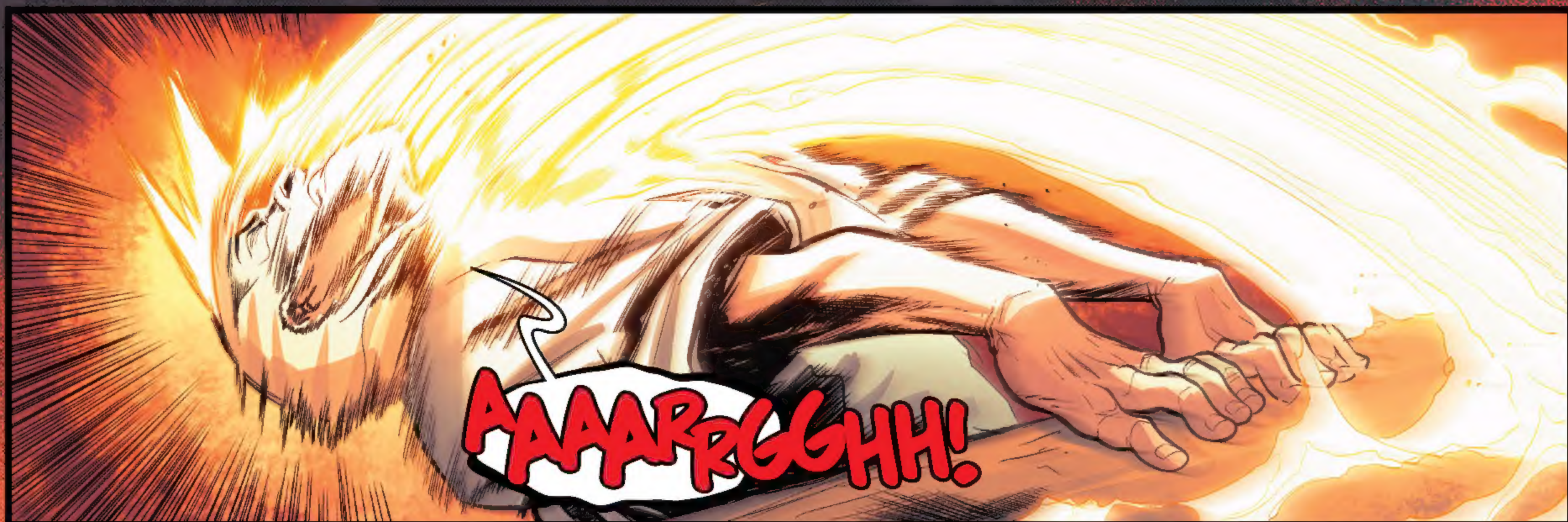
"AND DON'T GET ME STARTED ON WHAT IT DOES TO YOUR **PROSTATE.**"



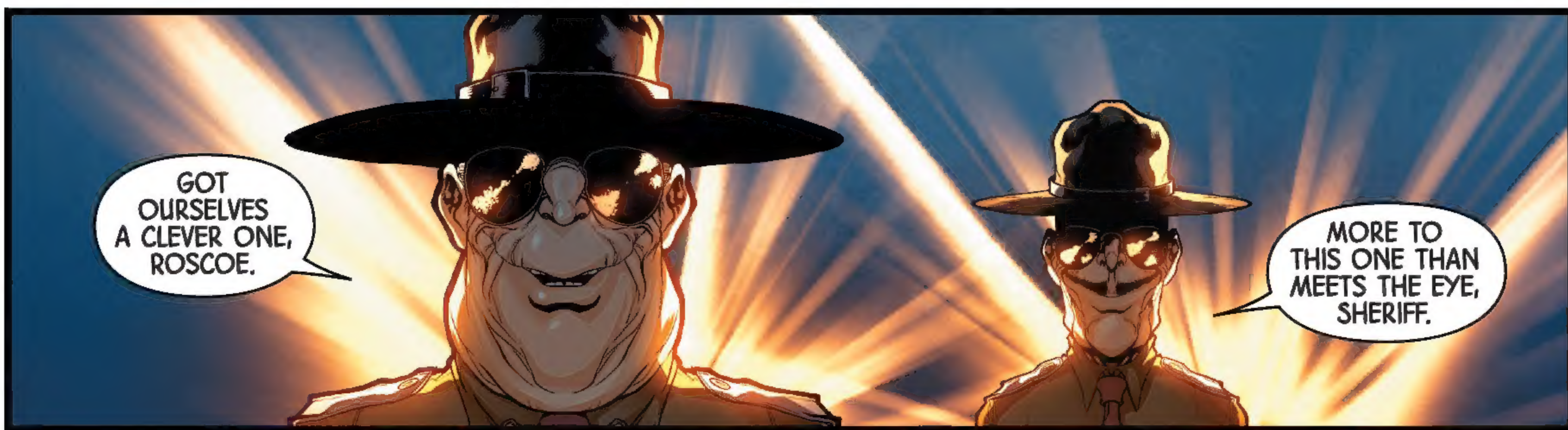
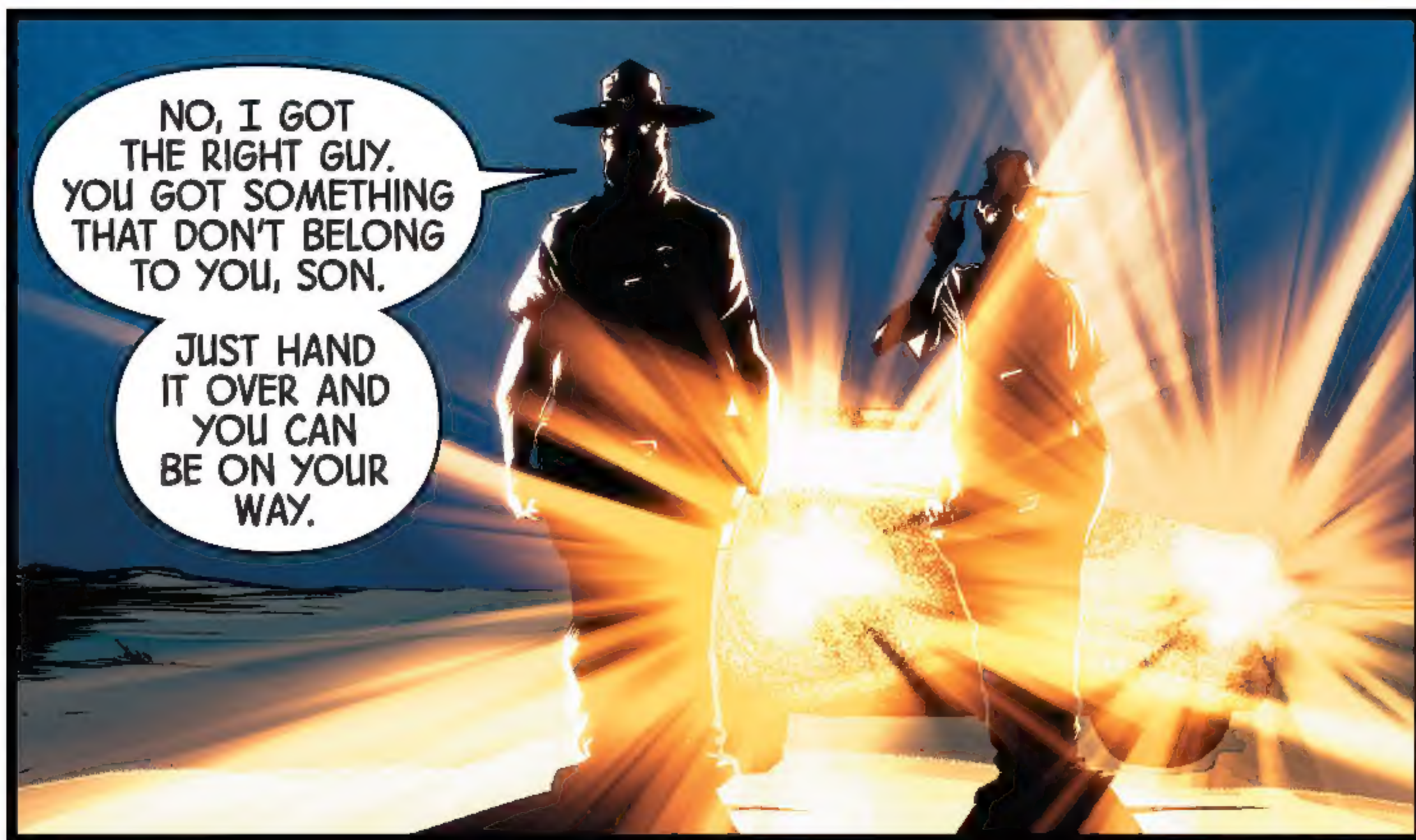
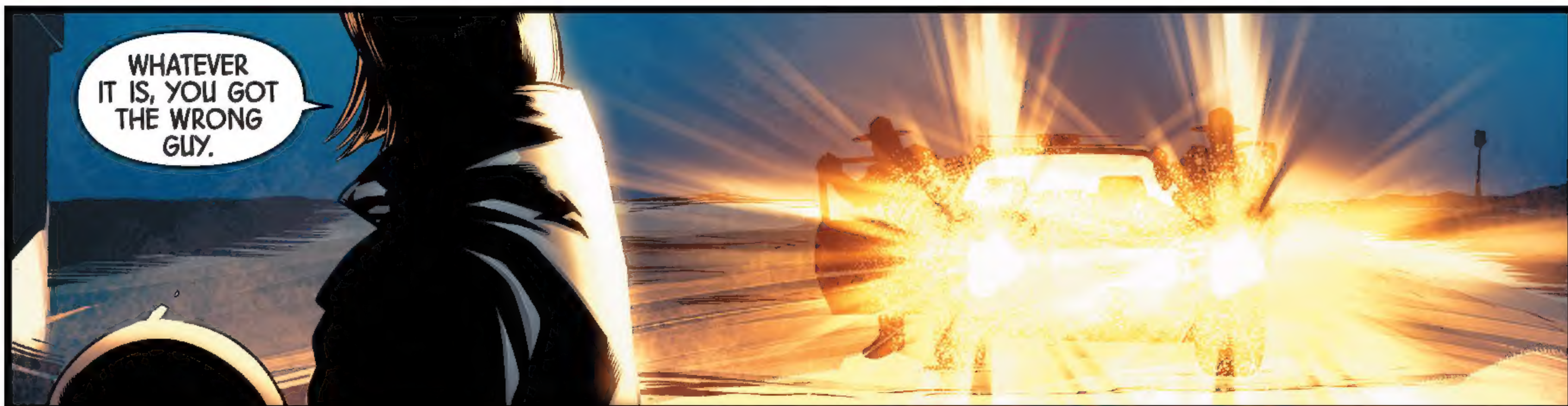
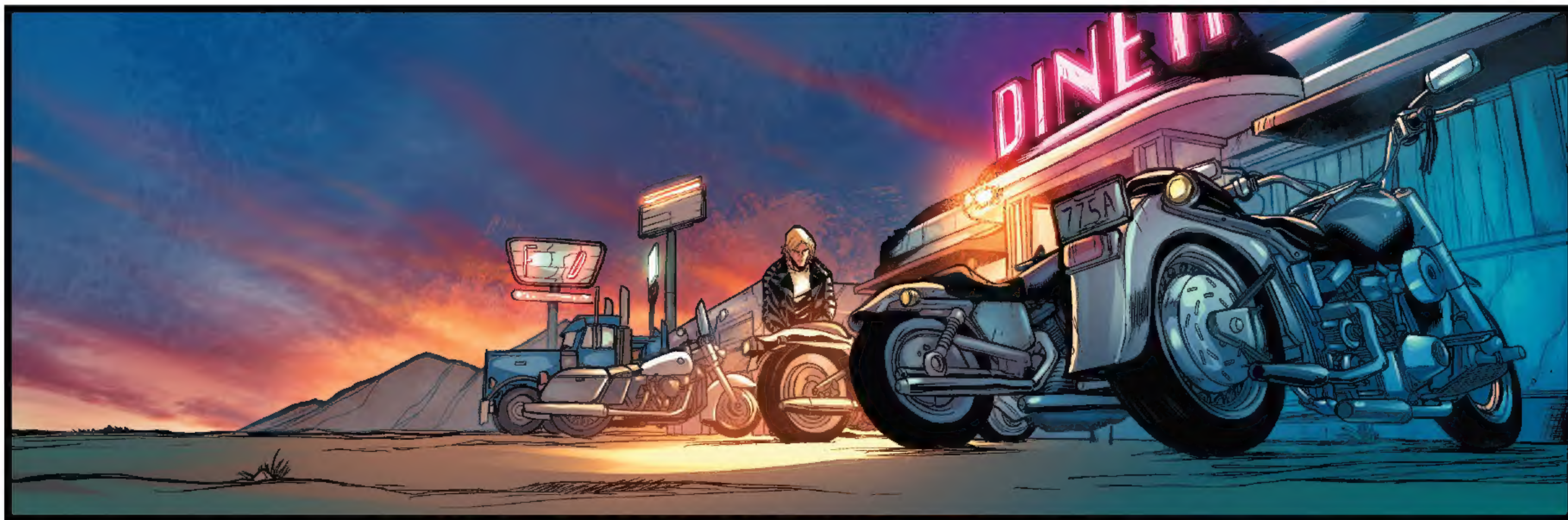
NOT THAT I DON'T APPRECIATE THE LECTURE, MACK, BUT I'M SORT OF WONDERING WHY A HEALTH-CONSCIOUS GUY LIKE YOURSELF HAS A SIGN IN THE WINDOW THAT SAYS, "HOME OF THE BOTTOMLESS CUP OF COFFEE."

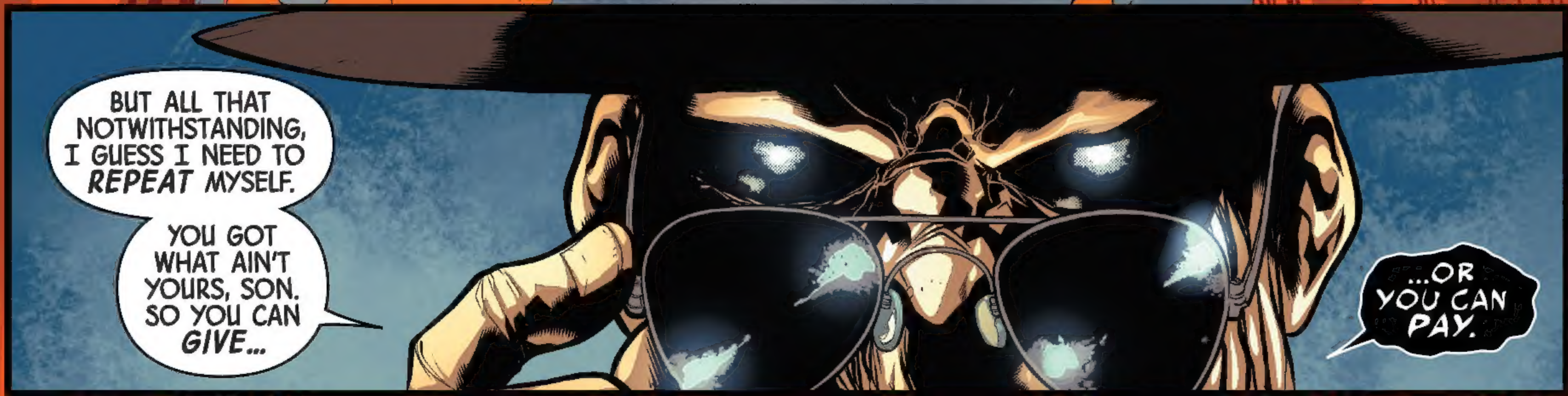
WHAT? A GUY CAN'T EARN A LIVING?







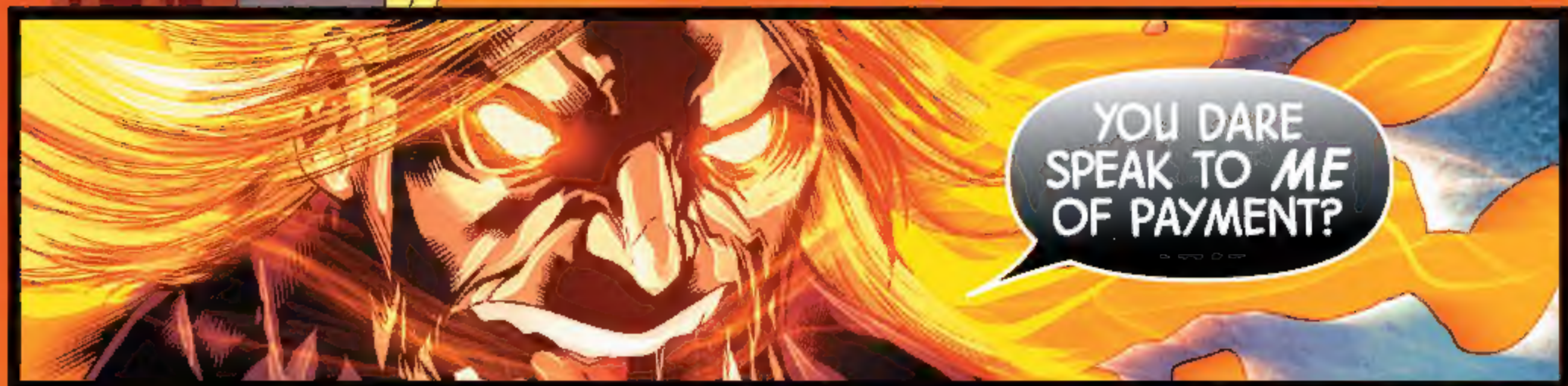




BUT ALL THAT  
NOTWITHSTANDING,  
I GUESS I NEED TO  
REPEAT MYSELF.

YOU GOT  
WHAT AIN'T  
YOURS, SON.  
SO YOU CAN  
GIVE...

...OR  
YOU CAN  
PAY.



YOU DARE  
SPEAK TO *ME*  
OF PAYMENT?



YOU WHO  
TOOK PART IN THE  
UNIVERSE'S GREATEST  
BETRAYAL?





LOOK  
WHAT WE  
GOT HERE. A  
GEN-U-INE  
GHOST  
RIDER!

NNNN!

KRAK

YES,  
LOOK IF YOU  
DARE.

LOOK INTO  
THE FACE OF  
VENGEANCE.

--GAK!

LOOK...

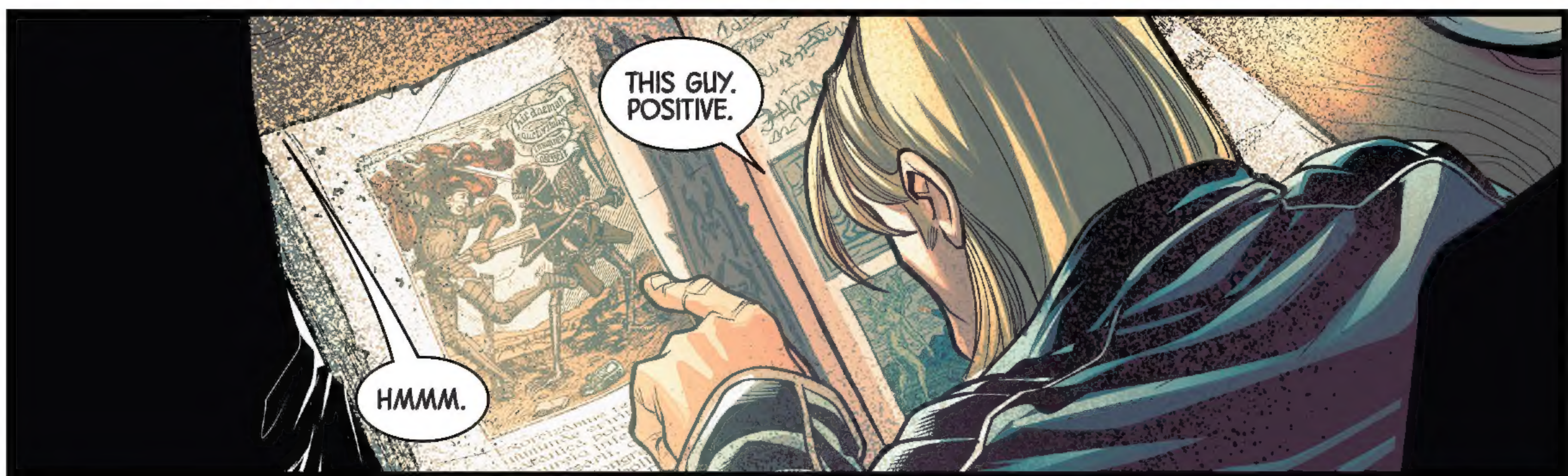
...AND  
BURN!

"WHAT ABOUT  
THIS ONE? LOOK  
CLOSELY."



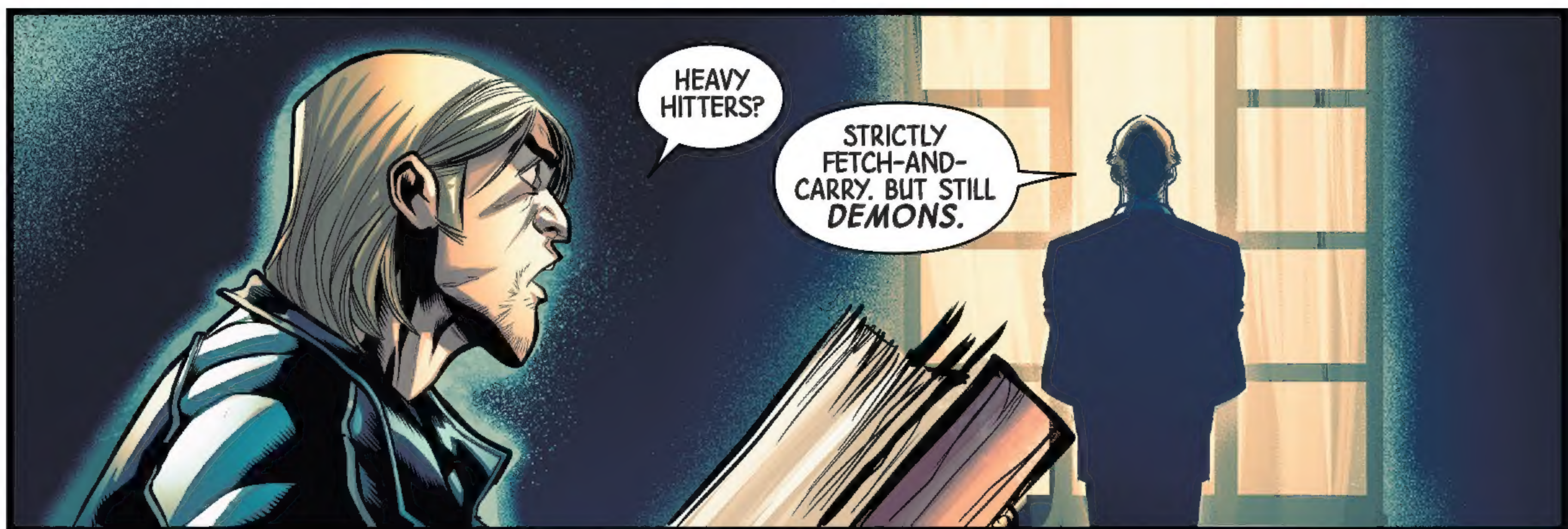
TOO...  
FISHY.

MORAY  
DEMON. YES,  
AN UNLIKELY  
SUSPECT.



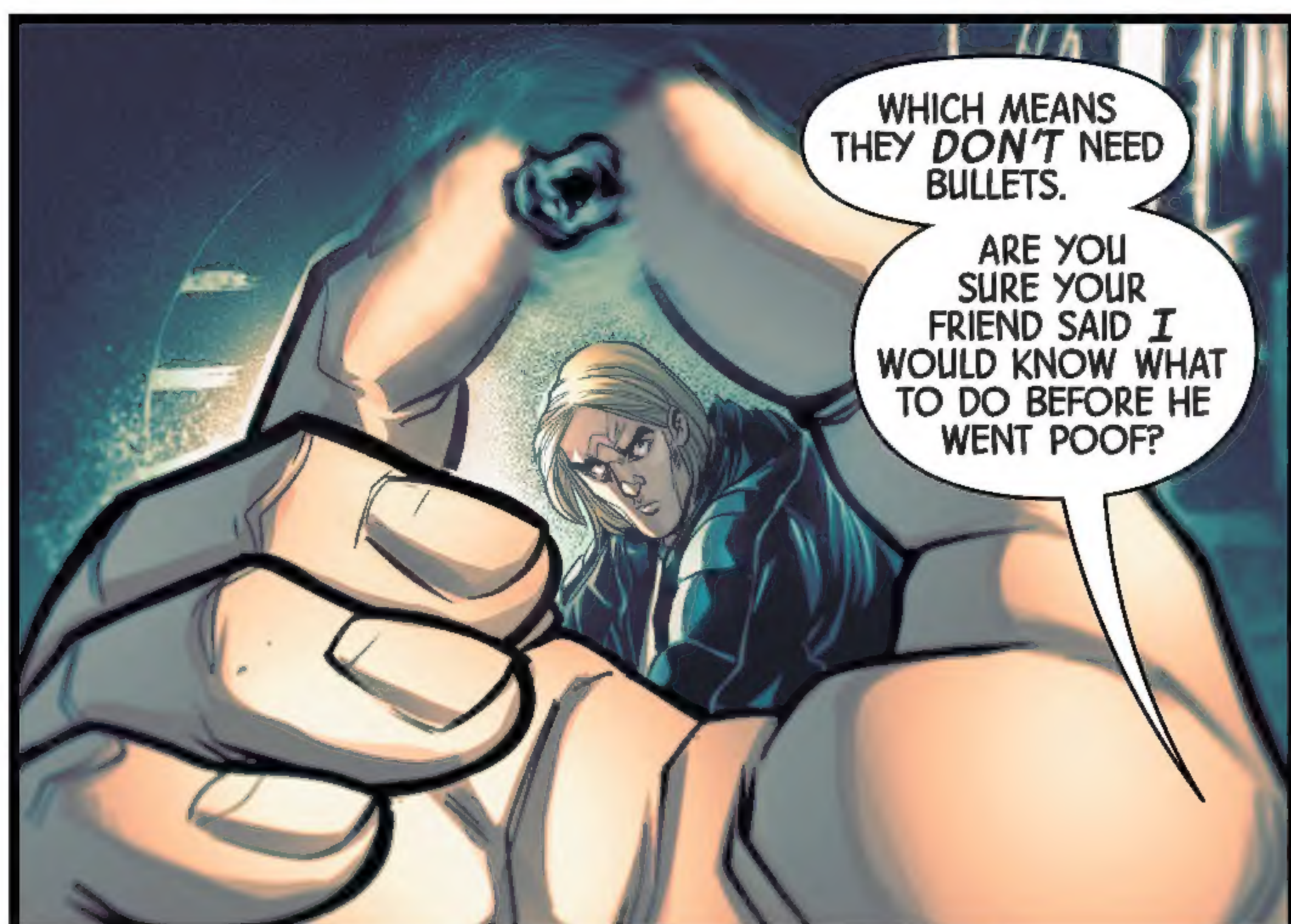
THIS GUY.  
POSITIVE.

HMMM.



HEAVY  
HITTERS?

STRICTLY  
FETCH-AND-  
CARRY. BUT STILL  
**DEMONS.**



WHICH MEANS  
THEY **DON'T** NEED  
BULLETS.

ARE YOU  
SURE YOUR  
FRIEND SAID **I**  
WOULD KNOW WHAT  
TO DO BEFORE HE  
WENT POOF?



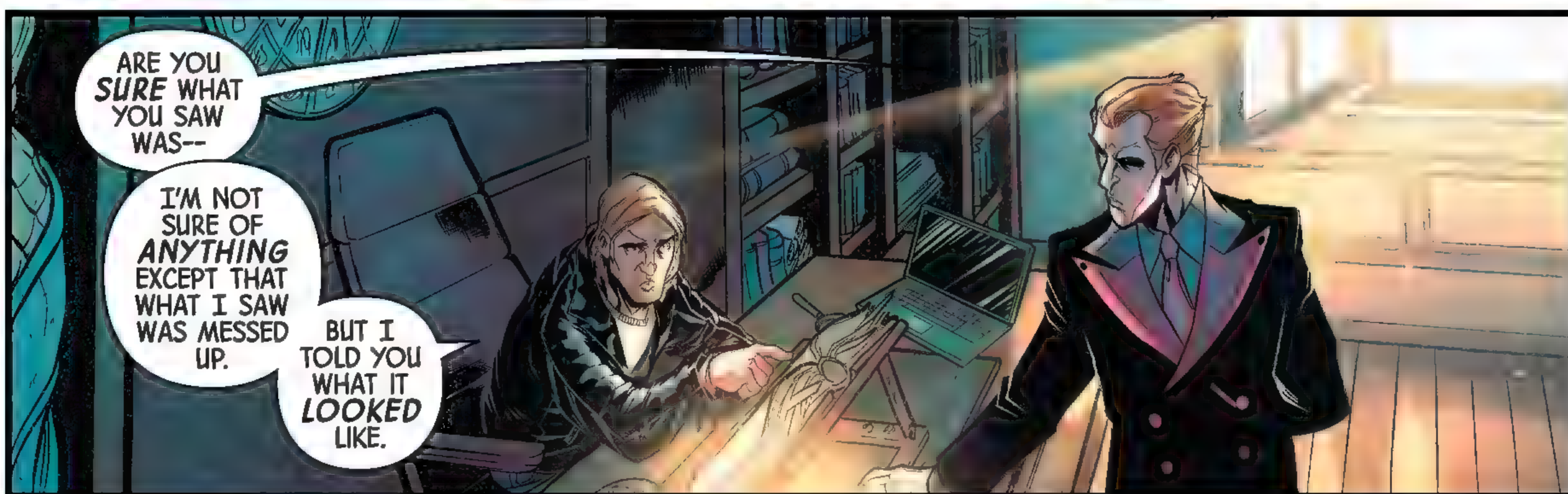
HE WASN'T  
MY FRIEND, DAIMON,  
AND HE DIDN'T REALLY  
GET TO FINISH HIS  
SENTENCE, BUT  
YEAH...



...HE  
DEFINITELY SAID  
TO TAKE IT TO  
**HELLSTROM.**

WELL,  
THEN. FAR BE  
IT FROM ME TO  
DENY A FINAL  
REQUEST.

BUT  
WHERE TO  
START?



ARE YOU  
**SURE** WHAT  
YOU SAW  
WAS--

I'M NOT  
SURE OF  
**ANYTHING**  
EXCEPT THAT  
WHAT I SAW  
WAS MESSED  
UP.

BUT I  
TOLD YOU  
WHAT IT  
**LOOKED**  
LIKE.



I THINK...  
THERE'S SOMEBODY  
WE NEED TO  
TALK TO.



WE,  
HUH?



YOU DIDN'T  
THINK YOU WERE  
JUST GOING TO DROP  
THIS IN MY LAP AND  
THEN TAKE OFF, DID  
YOU, JOHNNY?

# THE BRONX.

AND YOU  
THINK WE CAN  
FIND HELP  
HERE?

WE'RE SIMPLY  
ON A FACT-FINDING  
MISSION AT THE  
MOMENT.

NOK  
NOK  
NOK

AND CURTIS  
HAS BEEN  
HELPFUL TO ME  
IN THE PAST.

YEAH?

HELLO, CURTIS.  
CAN WE GET A  
MOMENT?

UGH.

THE  
STENCH.

VISITORS TO  
MY HUMBLE ABODE.  
OH GLORIOUS DAY.

I **WONDERED**  
WHEN I MIGHT  
SEE YOU.

I NEED YOU  
TO **EXAMINE**  
SOMETHING FOR  
ME, CURTIS.

THE USUAL  
PRICE? A DOZEN  
ASSORTED?

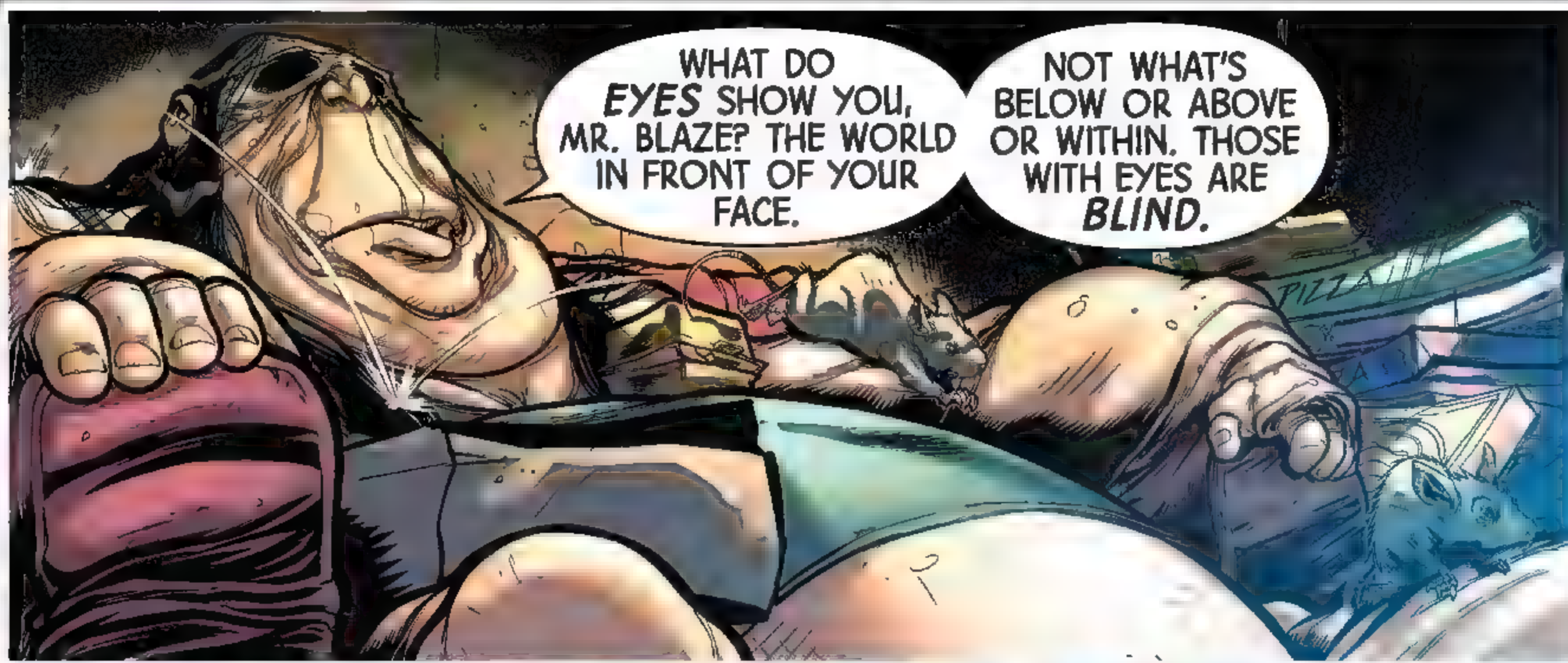
HOW  
CAN I SAY NO  
TO DAIMON  
HELLSTROM?

SOME CURIOSITY **DISTURBS**  
YOU, I TAKE IT. OTHERWISE,  
WHY COME TO SEE LITTLE  
OLD ME?

SHOW ME  
WHAT YOU'VE GOT,  
AND CURTIS WILL SEE  
WHAT HE WILL  
SEE.

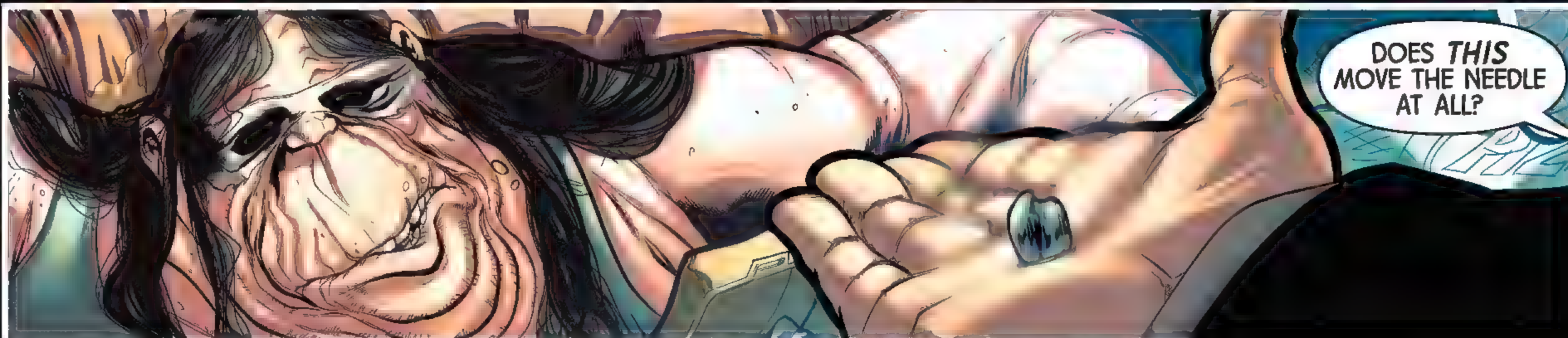


"SEE,"  
DID YOU  
SAY?

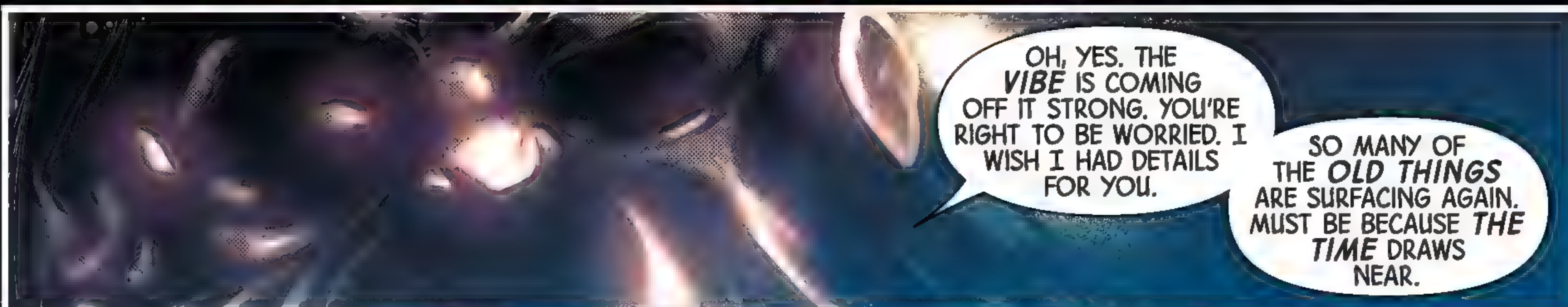


WHAT DO  
EYES SHOW YOU,  
MR. BLAZE? THE WORLD  
IN FRONT OF YOUR  
FACE.

NOT WHAT'S  
BELOW OR ABOVE  
OR WITHIN. THOSE  
WITH EYES ARE  
BLIND.



DOES *THIS*  
MOVE THE NEEDLE  
AT ALL?



OH, YES. THE  
*VIBE* IS COMING  
OFF IT STRONG. YOU'RE  
RIGHT TO BE WORRIED. I  
WISH I HAD DETAILS  
FOR YOU.

SO MANY OF  
THE *OLD THINGS*  
ARE SURFACING AGAIN.  
MUST BE BECAUSE THE  
TIME DRAWS  
NEAR.



CHECK WITH  
THOSE CLUCKING HENS  
ON WALL STREET. SOMEONE  
OF MY ILK ISN'T ALLOWED IN,  
BUT YOU MIGHT FIND OUT  
SOMETHING.

WE  
APPRECIATE  
YOUR TIME,  
CURTIS.



WHO WAS  
THAT?

A DESERTER  
FROM HISTORY'S  
OLDEST WAR.  
SENTENCED TO THE  
EXISTENCE YOU'VE  
JUST SEEN.

COME.  
WE HAVE  
ANOTHER STOP  
TO MAKE.

**ELSEWHERE...**

I MUST SAY, I'M **DISAPPOINTED** IN THE WAY EVENTS HAVE UNFOLDED.

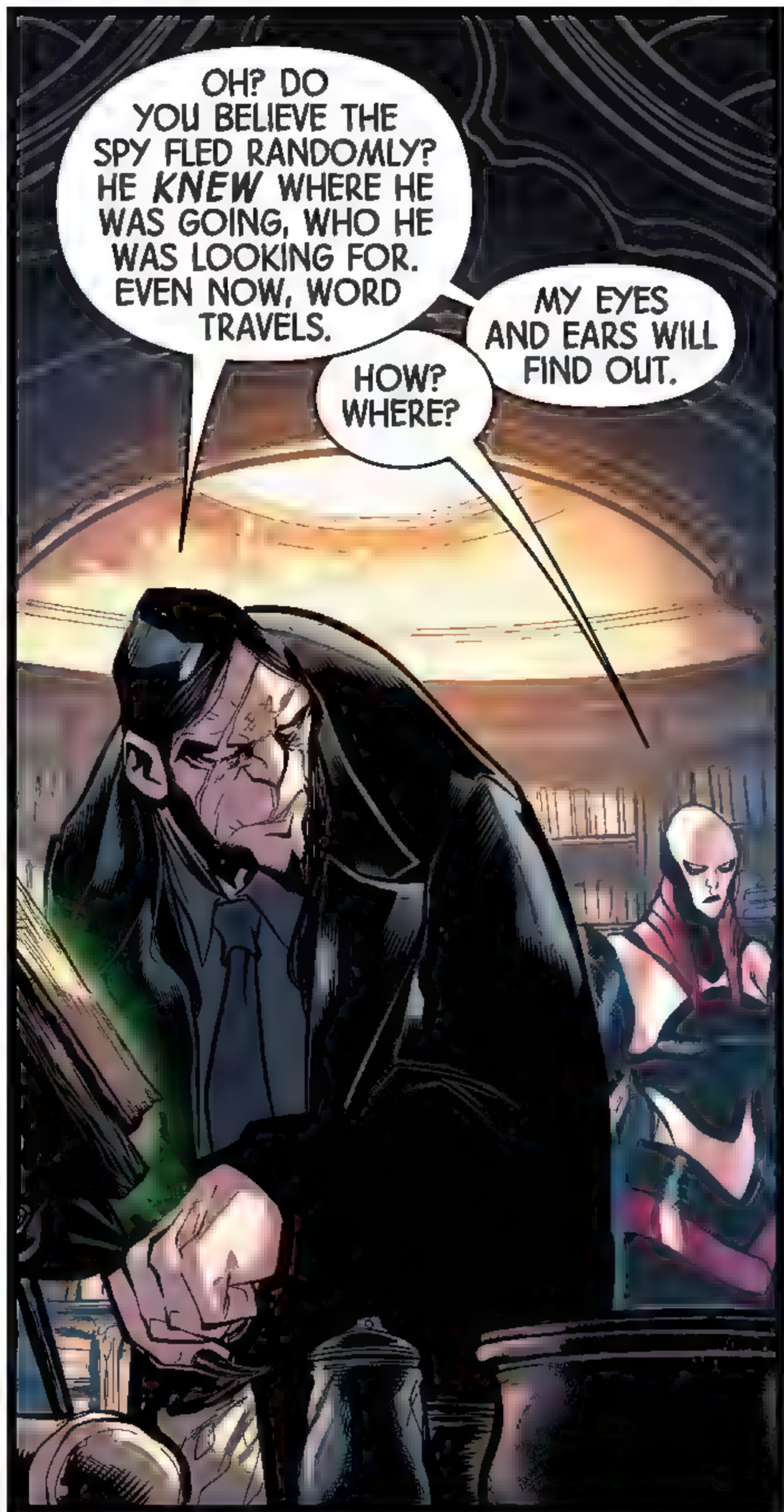
MINOR DEMONS ARE ALWAYS OVER-CONFIDENT AND HAVE THE ATTENTION SPANS OF GNATS.

EXCUSES.

ALL THAT MATTERS IS THAT I'VE LOST MY SILVER, AND YOU KNOW HOW DIFFICULT IT WAS TO COME BY IN THE FIRST PLACE.

I PUT **YOU** IN CHARGE OF OVERSEEING THE SITUATION.

MY APOLOGIES, **NECRODAMUS**, BUT AT LEAST THE **SPY** WAS DEALT WITH. YOUR SECRET IS SAFE.



OH? DO YOU BELIEVE THE SPY FLED RANDOMLY? HE *KNEW* WHERE HE WAS GOING, WHO HE WAS LOOKING FOR. EVEN NOW, WORD TRAVELS.

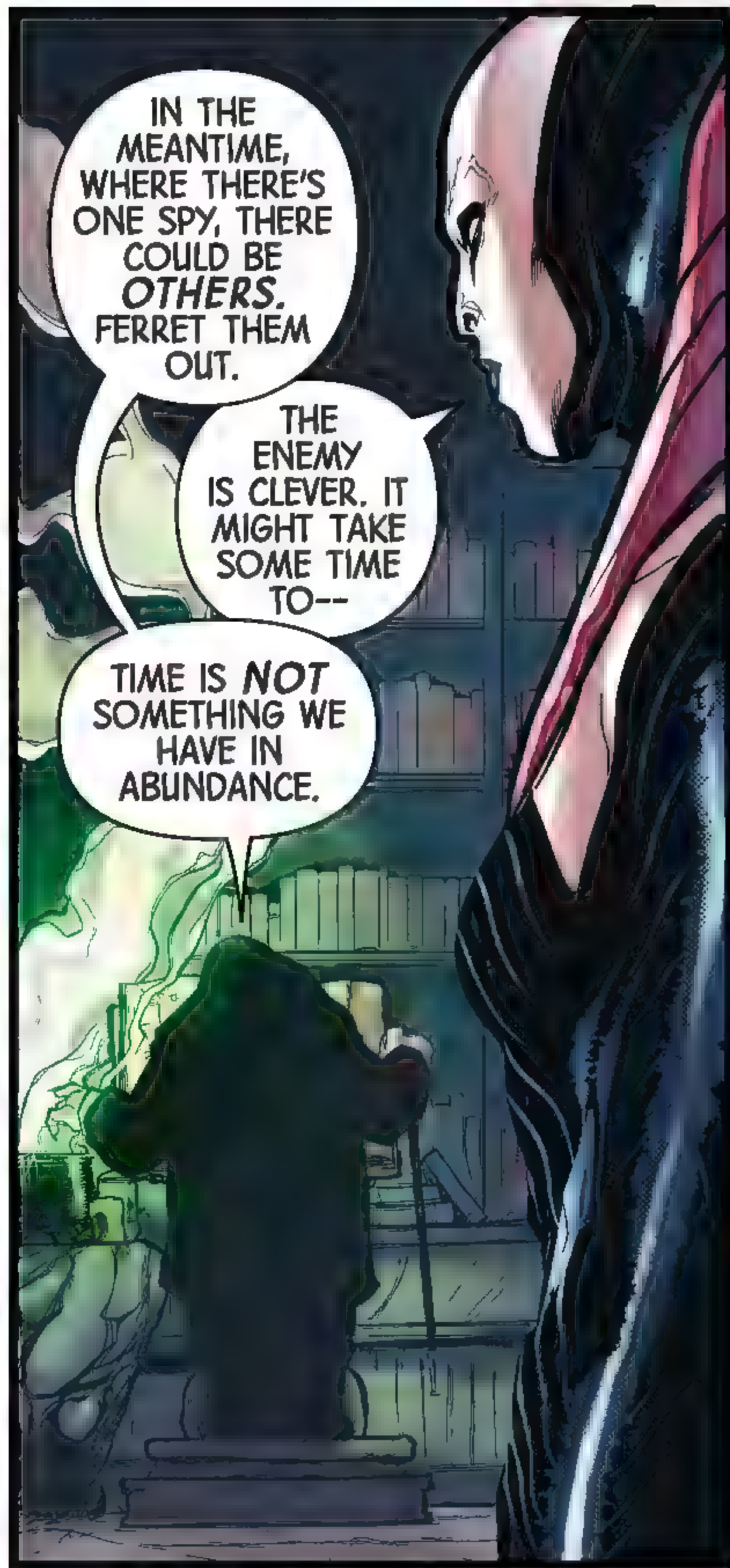
HOW? WHERE?

MY EYES AND EARS WILL FIND OUT.



IN THE MEANTIME, OUR PROBLEMS ARE *TWO-FOLD*.

I'LL DETERMINE THE BEST WAY TO RECOVER OUR LOST *SILVER*.



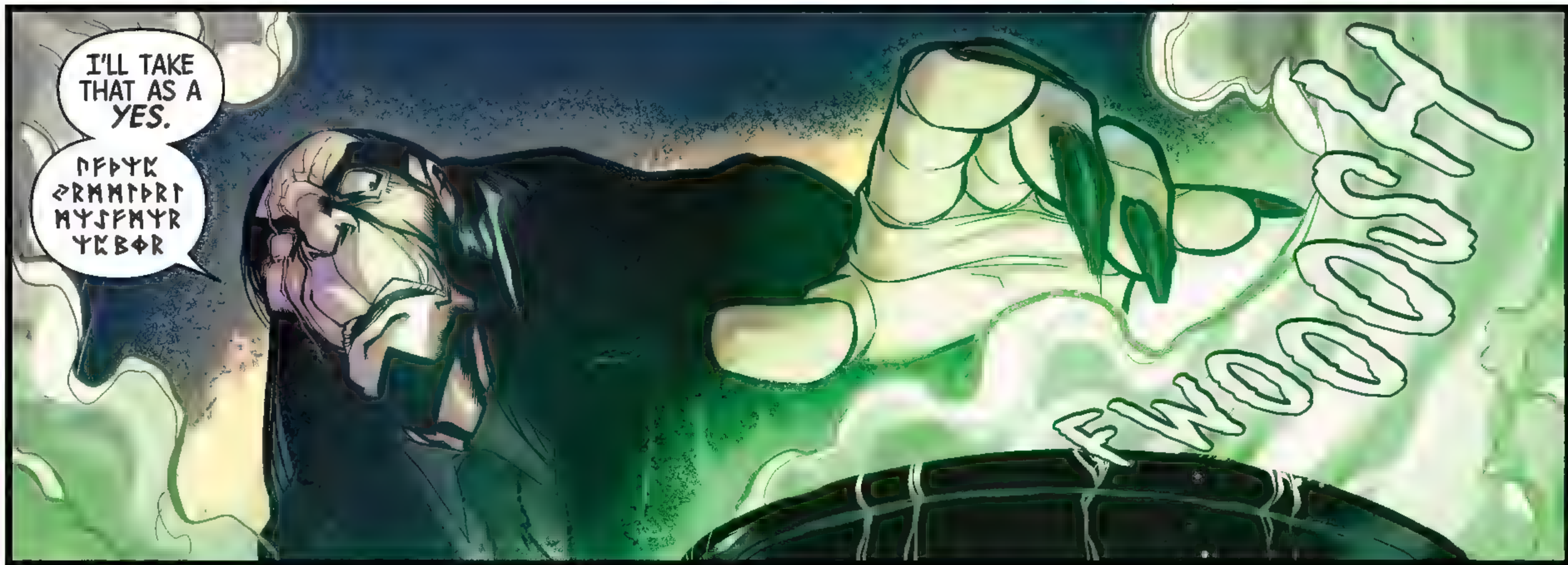
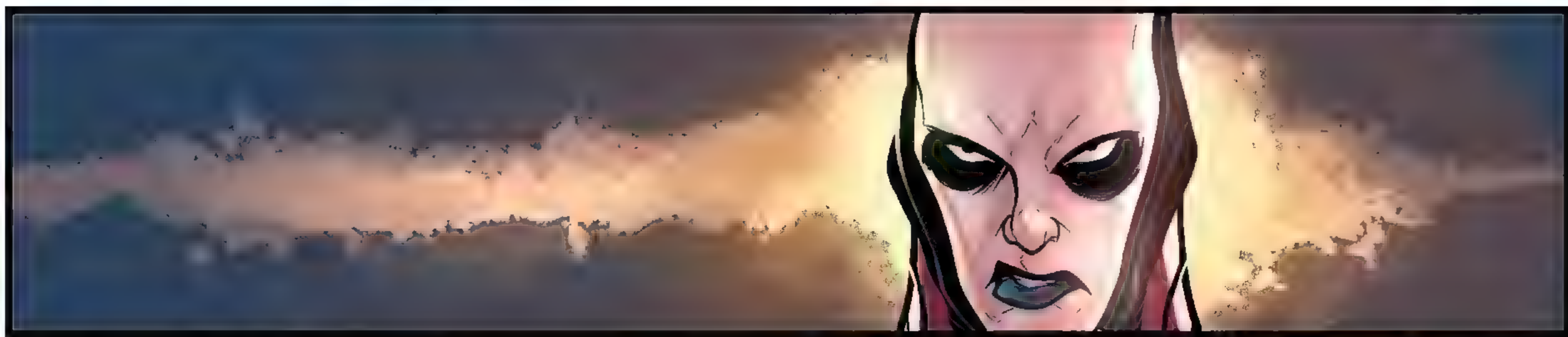
IN THE MEANTIME, WHERE THERE'S ONE SPY, THERE COULD BE *OTHERS*. FERRET THEM OUT.

THE ENEMY IS CLEVER. IT MIGHT TAKE SOME TIME TO--

TIME IS *NOT* SOMETHING WE HAVE IN ABUNDANCE.

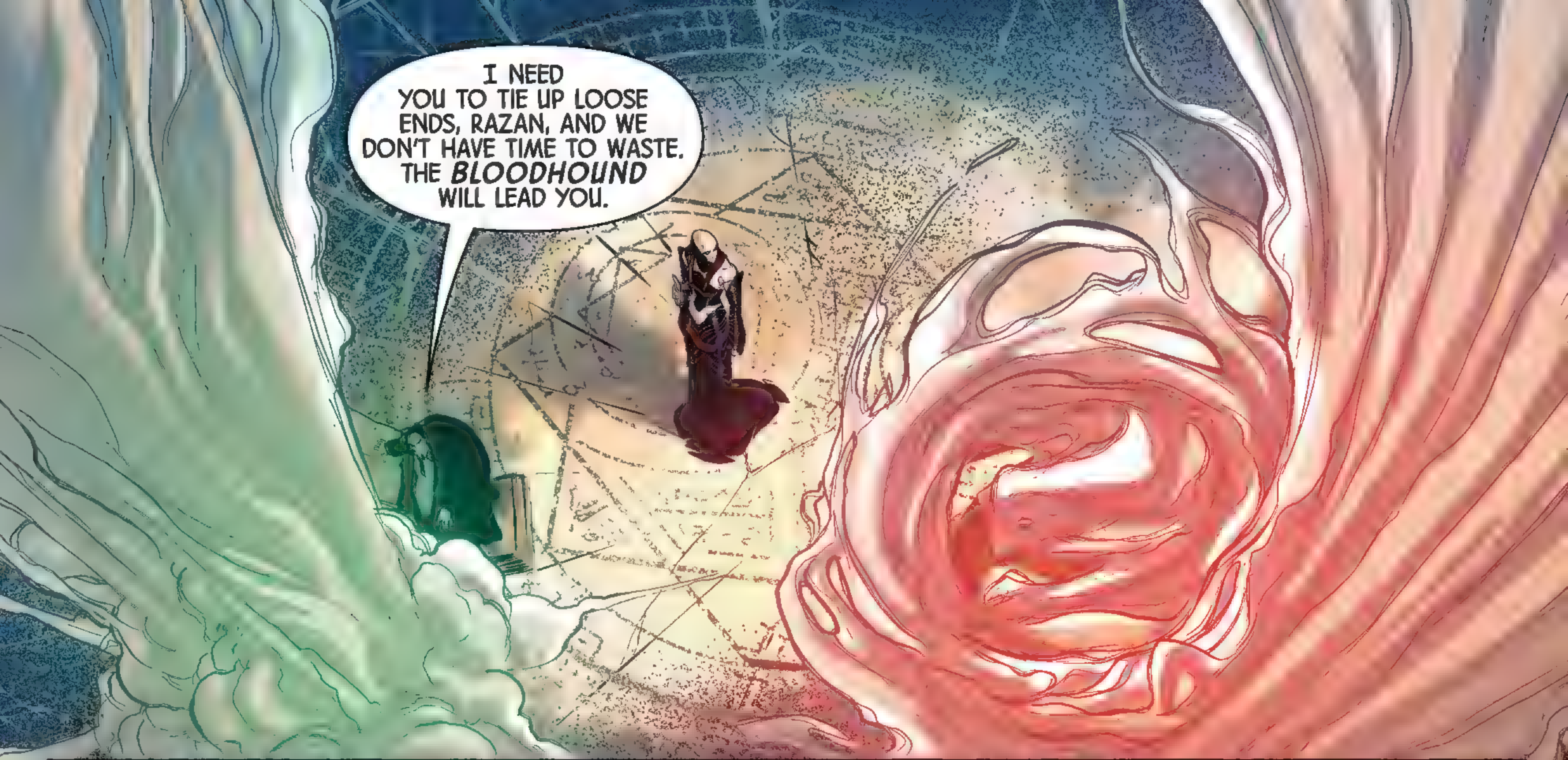


YOU DO WANT TO *REDEEM* YOURSELF, DON'T YOU, *RAZAN*?



I'LL TAKE THAT AS A *YES*.

НЭДЫК  
ЭРММТЭР  
МЫСМЫР  
УКБӨР

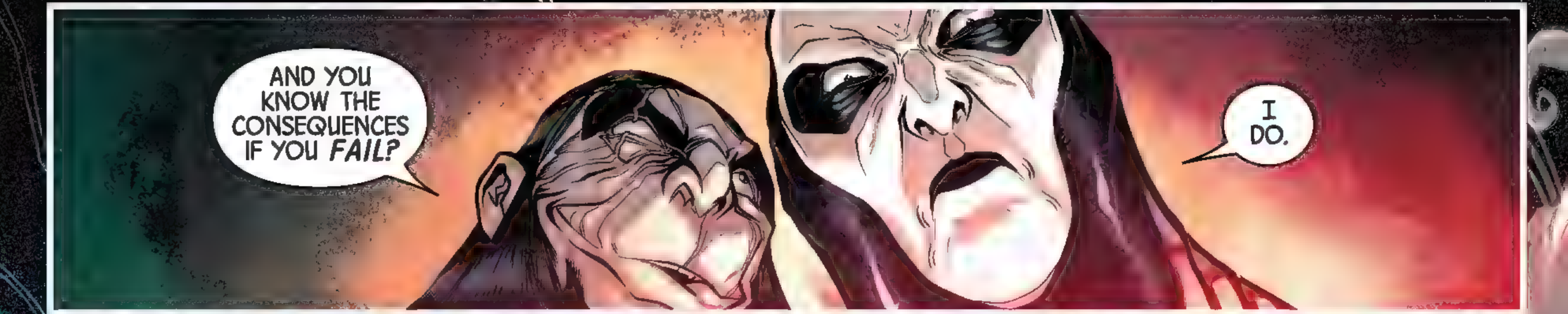


I NEED  
YOU TO TIE UP LOOSE  
ENDS, RAZAN, AND WE  
DON'T HAVE TIME TO WASTE.  
THE **BLOODHOUND**  
WILL LEAD YOU.



YOU  
UNDERSTAND  
WHAT'S AT  
STAKE?

YES.



AND YOU  
KNOW THE  
CONSEQUENCES  
IF YOU **FAIL**?

I  
DO.



THEN BY ALL  
MEANS, **GOOD  
HUNTING.**

"A PLEASURE TO  
SEE YOU AGAIN,  
MR. HELLSTROM.  
IT'S BEEN A  
LONG TIME."

# THE WALL STREET CLUB. FINANCIAL DISTRICT.

GOOD TO  
SEE YOU AS WELL,  
HENRY. IS IT POSSIBLE  
TO GET A TABLE ON  
SHORT NOTICE?

ALWAYS HAPPY  
TO ACCOMMODATE  
YOU, MR. HELLSTROM.  
FRANKLY, IT'S NOT A  
PROBLEM. WE AREN'T  
QUITE SO BUSY  
THESE DAYS.

SERVICE  
FOR TWO?

THANK YOU,  
HENRY.

YOU DON'T  
COME AROUND  
MUCH ANYMORE,  
DAIMON.

DUTIES  
ELSEWHERE.

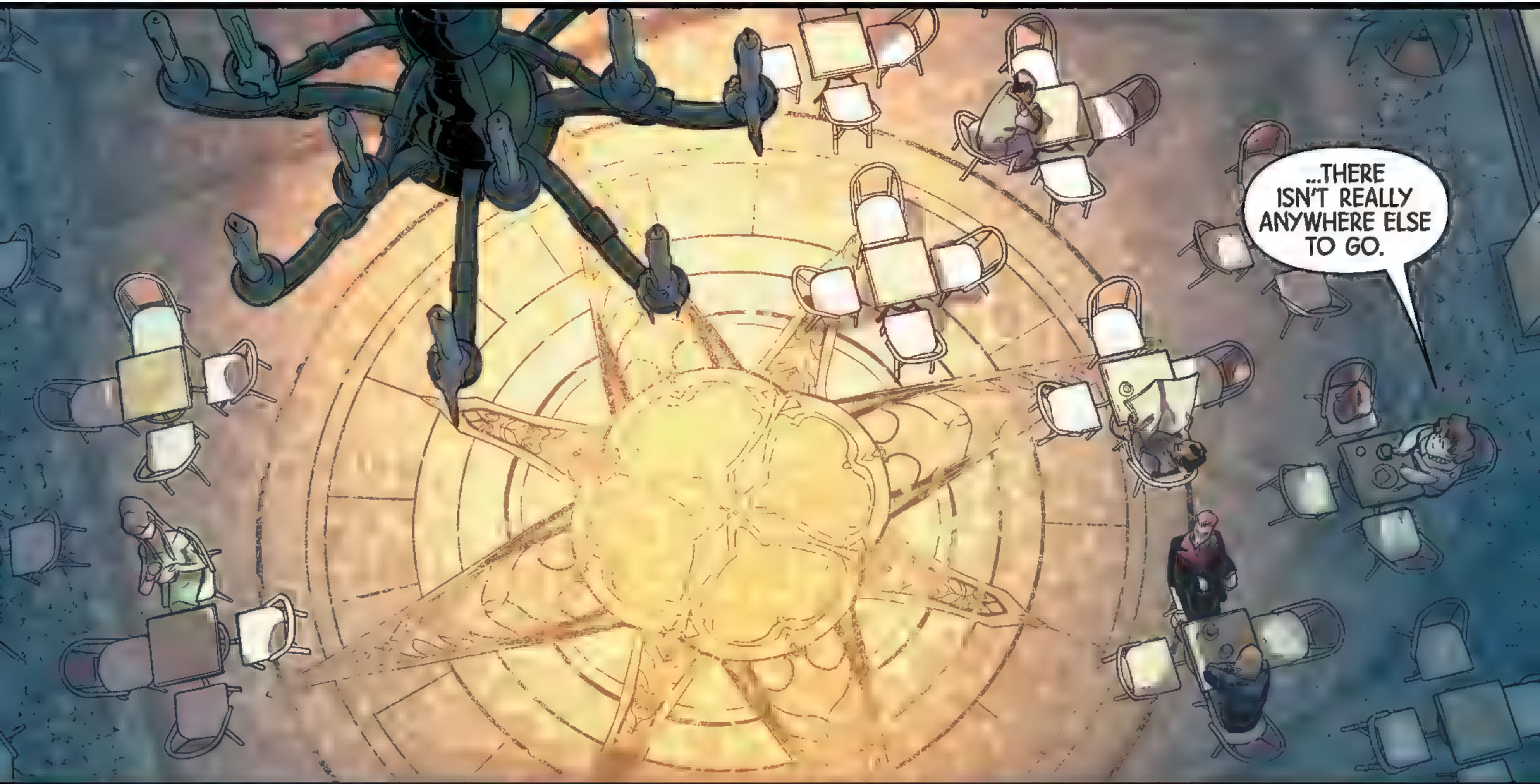
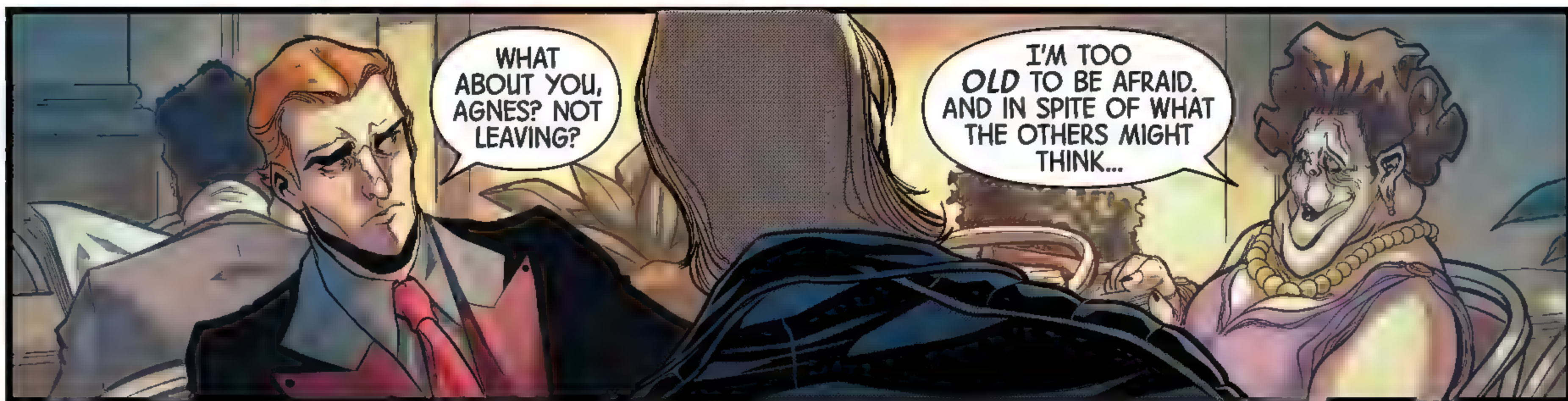
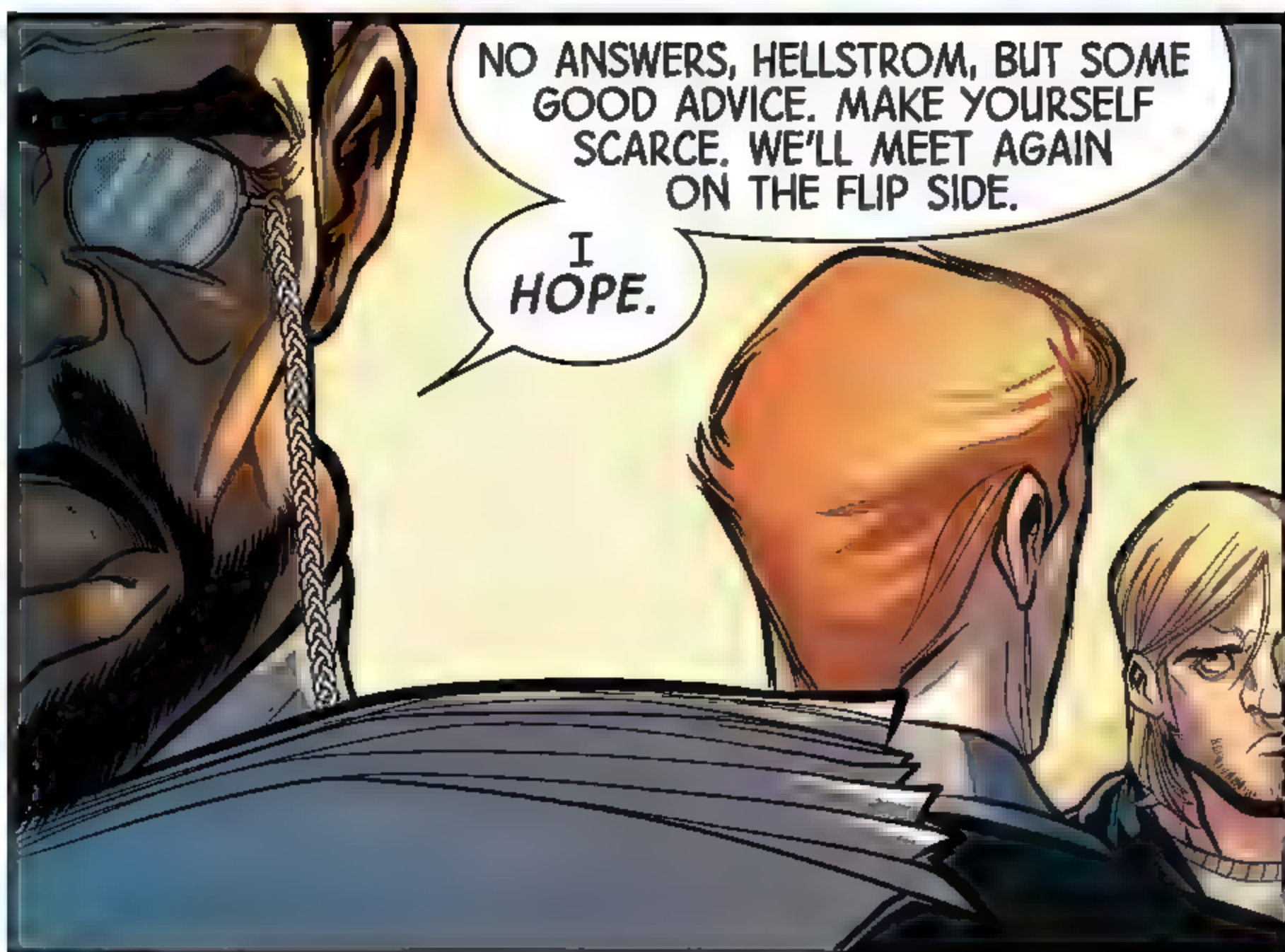
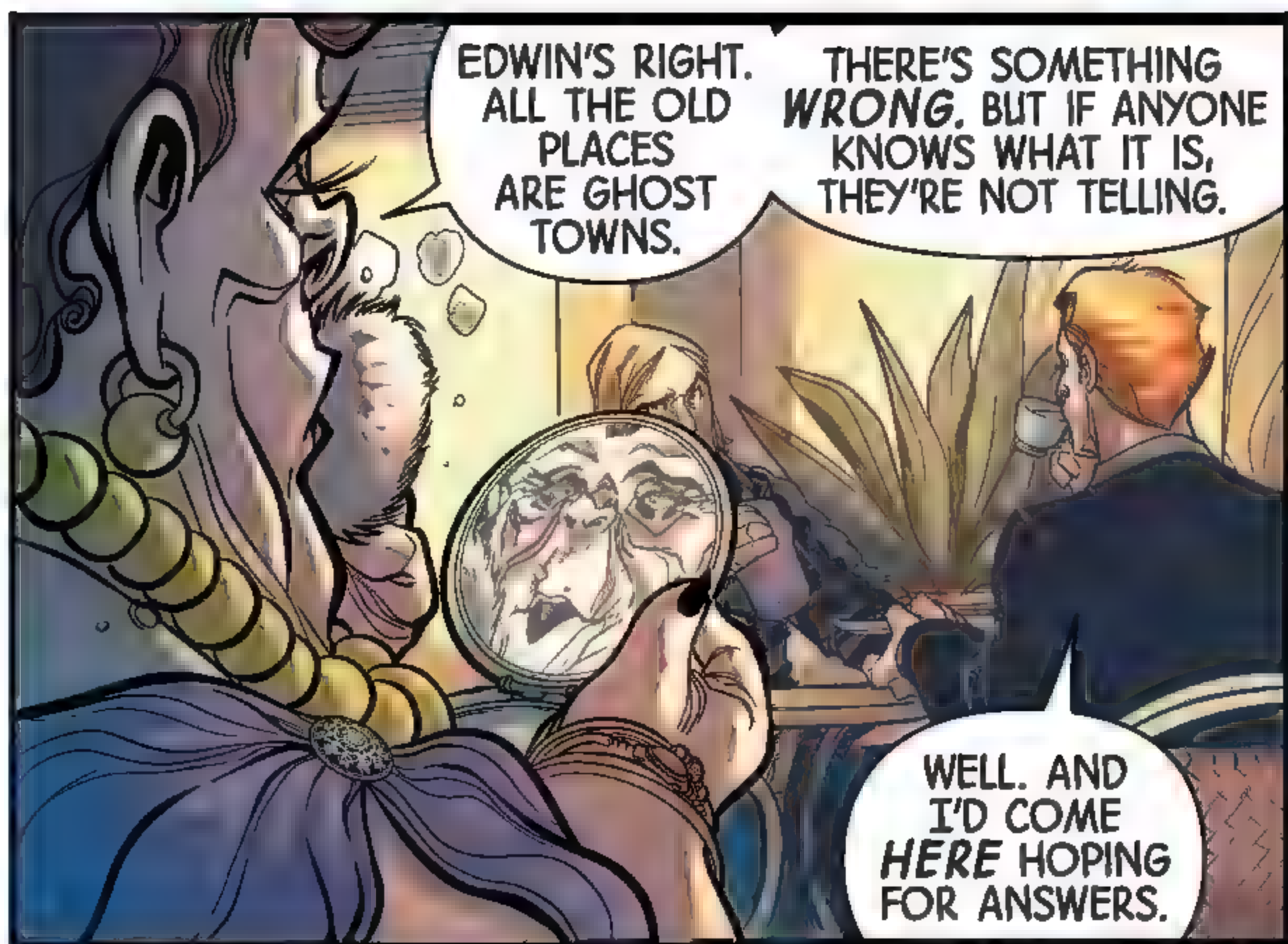
I WAS  
HOPING TO SEE  
SOME OF MY OLD  
CIRCLE. PLACE IS  
NEARLY EMPTY.

IT'S GETTING  
TO BE *THAT* TIME  
AGAIN, DON'T YOU  
KNOW, OLD CHAP? EVERY  
THOUSAND YEARS OR  
SO WE ALL GET A  
LITTLE TENSE.

ALTHOUGH IT  
ALL FEELS A BIT  
**DIFFERENT** THIS  
GO 'ROUND,  
DOESN'T IT?

UH,  
MAYBE  
A LIGHT  
BEER?

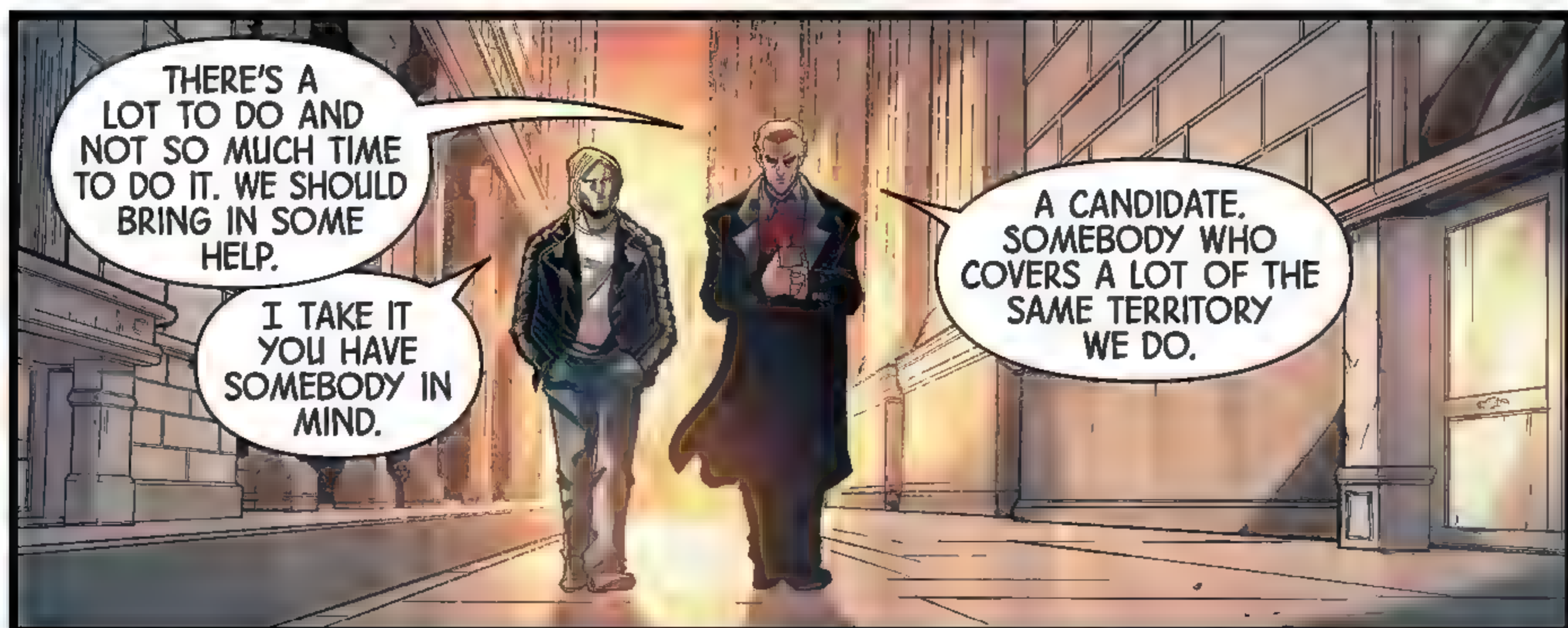
OF COURSE,  
SIR.





WAS THAT  
ALL YOU HOPED  
IT WOULD BE?

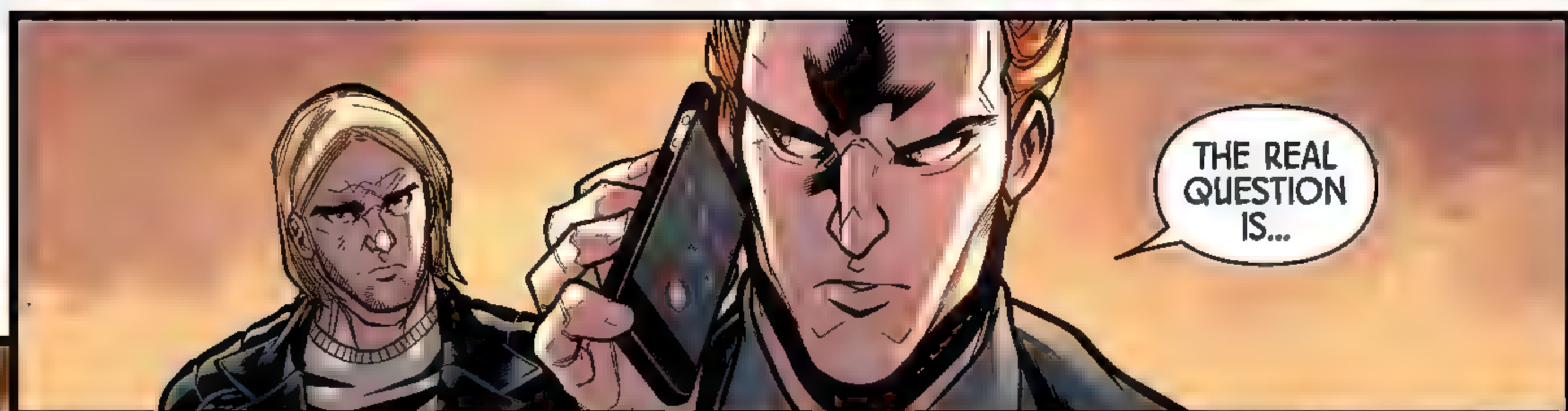
NOT QUITE.  
BUT WE LEARNED  
SOMETHING. THIS  
IS EVEN **BIGGER**  
THAN WE  
THOUGHT.



THERE'S A LOT TO DO AND NOT SO MUCH TIME TO DO IT. WE SHOULD BRING IN SOME HELP.

I TAKE IT  
YOU HAVE  
SOMEBODY IN  
MIND.

A CANDIDATE.  
SOMEBODY WHO  
COVERS A LOT OF THE  
SAME TERRITORY  
WE DO.



THE REAL  
QUESTION  
IS...

**"...WILL HE EVEN PICK UP?"**

[illegible]

# EAST SIDE BLOOD BANK

**WE'RE  
MADE!**

**HAUL  
ASS!**

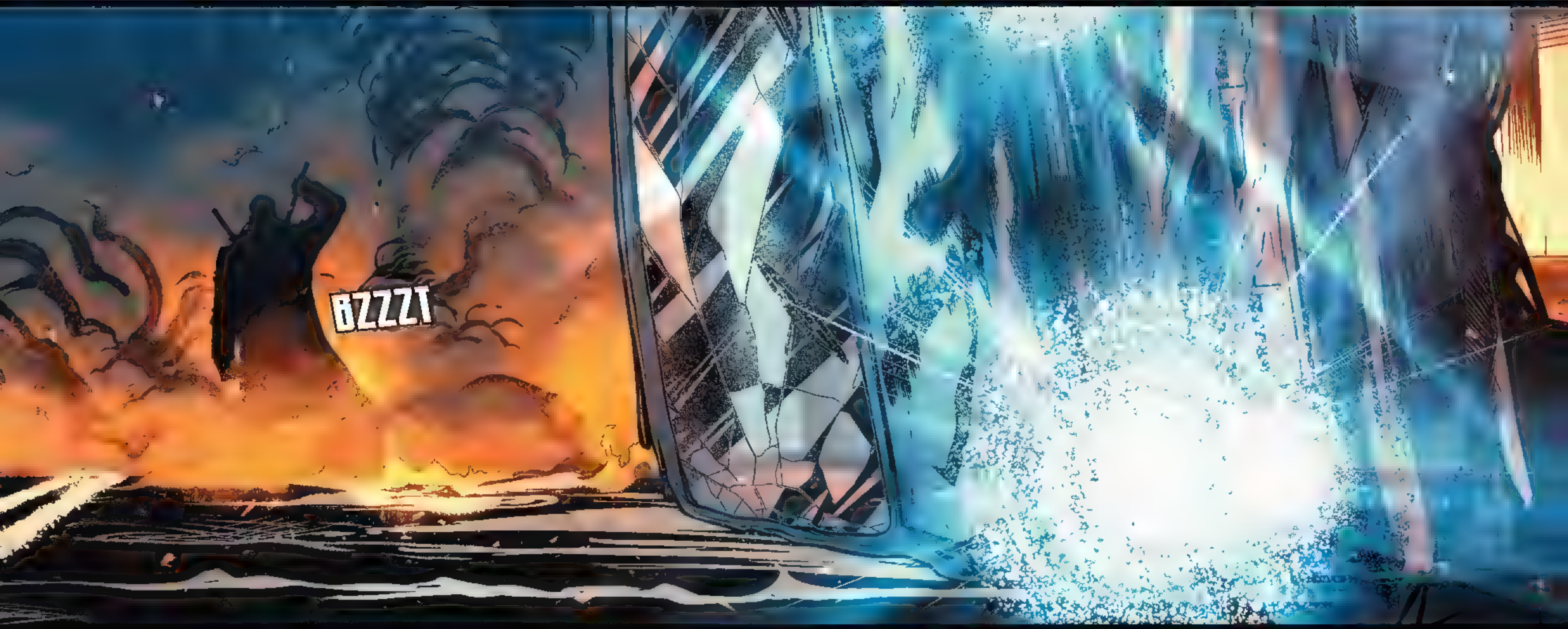


**WE'RE  
ONLY HALF  
LOADED!**

LEAVE IT! WE  
**STILL** MADE  
OUT GOOD.

HELL  
YEAH!



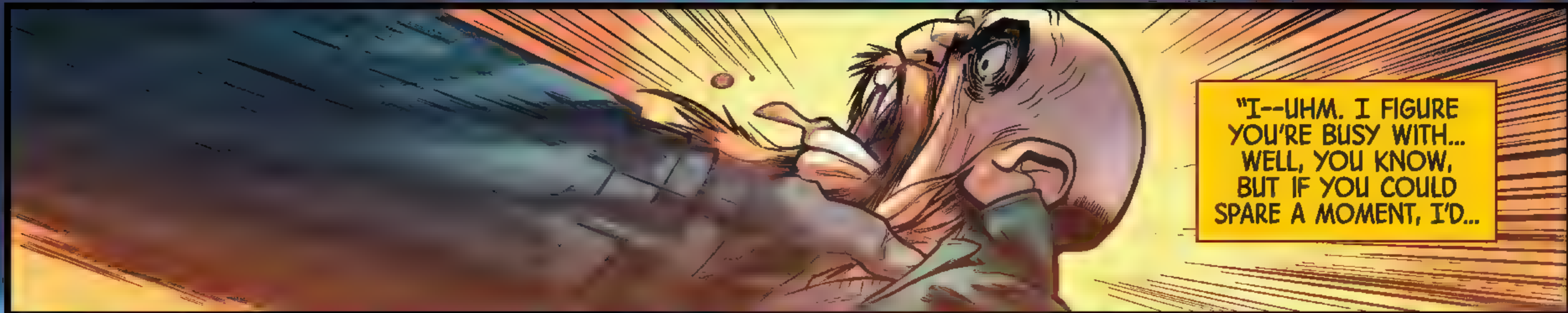


"IT'S ME. YOU WOULDN'T HAVE THIS NUMBER IN THE FIRST PLACE IF IT WEREN'T IMPORTANT. BEEP'S COMING. MAKE IT GOOD."

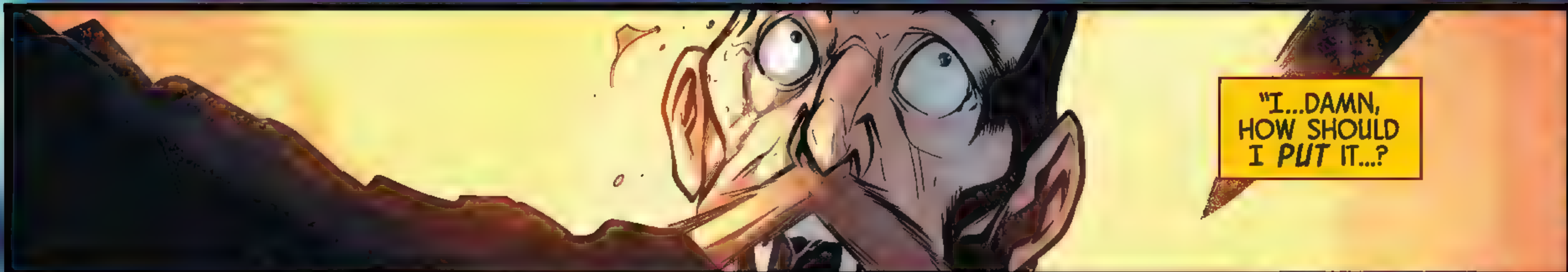
**BEEEEEEEEEEEEEP**



"IT'S ME.  
HELLSTROM."



"I--UHM. I FIGURE  
YOU'RE BUSY WITH...  
WELL, YOU KNOW,  
BUT IF YOU COULD  
SPARE A MOMENT, I'D..."



"I...DAMN,  
HOW SHOULD  
I PUT IT...?"

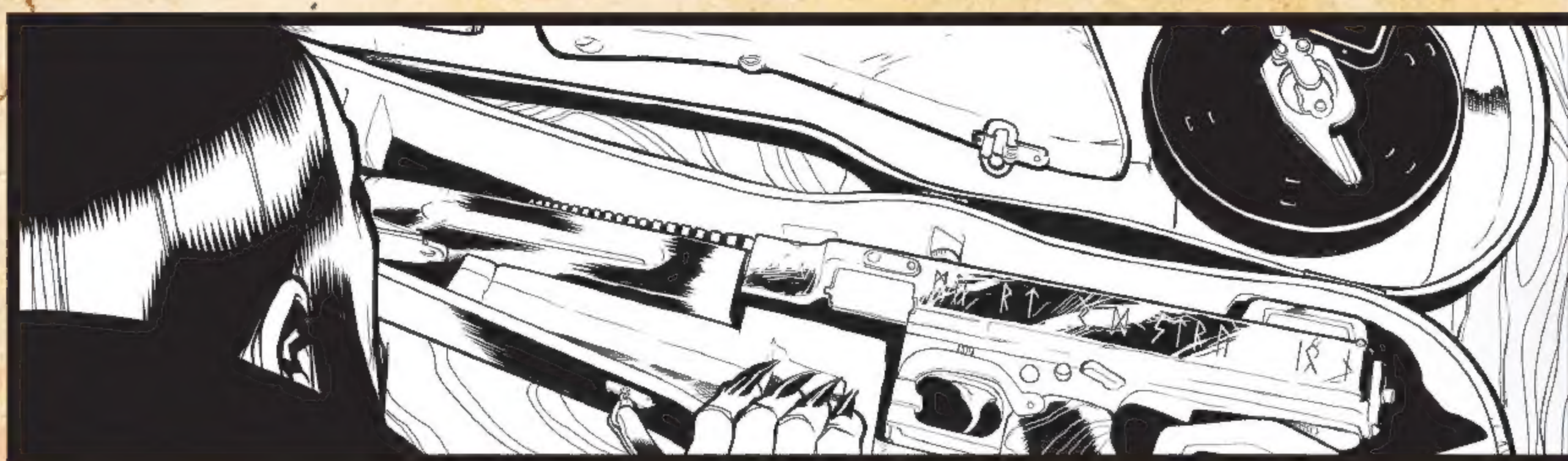


"I WAS WONDERING IF  
YOU COULD HELP US  
AVERT THE COMPLETE  
AND UTTER DESTRUCTION  
OF EXISTENCE  
AS WE KNOW IT."

**TO BE CONTINUED...**



# NEXT ISSUE



## WAR AT THE GATES OF HELL CONTINUES...

JOHNNY BLAZE.

WITH HIS STEPFATHER DYING OF CANCER, JOHNNY MADE A DEAL WITH MEPHISTO TO SAVE HIS LIFE. IN RETURN...

...HE WAS BONDED WITH THE DEMON ZARATHOS. THE SPIRIT OF VENGEANCE. THE...

**GHOST RIDER**

**BLADE**

WHEN ERIK BROOK'S MOTHER WENT INTO LABOR DELIVERING HIM, SHE WAS ATTACKED BY A VAMPIRE.

ERIC WAS BORN PART MAN, PART VAMPIRE. THE DAYWALKER FIGHTS MONSTERS WITHOUT MERCY OR REMORSE.

# HELLSTORM

DAIMON  
HELLSTROM.

THE SON  
OF SATAN.

UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF HIS HUMAN MOTHER, DAIMON REJECTED HIS FATHER'S WISHES FOR HIM TO EMBRACE EVIL...UNLIKE HIS SISTER...

# SATANA

...SATANA  
HELLSTROM.

THE DAUGHTER  
OF SATAN.

SATANA **EMBRACED** HER FATHER'S DARKNESS, PULLED TOWARD EVIL FROM AN EARLY AGE.

THESE FOUR UNLIKELY ALLIES HAVE UNCOVERED A CONSPIRACY HAUNTING THE DARK CORNERS OF OUR WORLD. THEY HAVE BEEN FORCED TOGETHER TO PREVENT THE APOCALYPSE. TOGETHER, THEY ARE...

THE

# SPIRITS OF VENGEANCE



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